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Local A-8

City News

Vol. 18, No. 51

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September 27 - October 3, 2000

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Corzine explains intentions

Spending — Corzine has come under criticism from his critics who believe he has an unfair advantage in the race because of his personal finances — which he has used to fund his campaign. He said he recently came under attack because of his contribution to St. Matthew's A.M.E. church run by the Rev. Reginald Jackson, and is accused of trying to buy the black ministry.

Corzine said he believes there are double standards when it comes to contributing to black organizations and that he doubts he would have been criticized for contributing to a Catholic church. "I believe in inclusion," he said.

He believes the country needs a comprehensive solution to the spending problem and the use of "soft money." According to, a web site about soft money, "since 1907, it has been illegal for a corporation to spend money on political campaigns. And since 1974, it has been illegal for a single person to contribute more than \$1,000 to a federal candidate, or more than \$20,000 per year to a political party." However, loopholes by the Federal Election Commission in 1978, allows large contributions for "party building" purposes, which is not supposed to be used for every thing but a candidate's campaign.

Spending in the Urban districts — Corzine believes government sponsorship not ownership is needed in expanding economic development in urban centers, and there has to be a more focused effort on privatizes and government agencies working together.

"I want to set up a national network of urban investment banks. I call them 'Renaissance Banks.' I believe they will lead to a rebirth of our older cities and towns in New Jersey and across the nation. These institutions would provide seed capital, working capital and consulting services — the tools of aggressive economic leadership in the renaissance of urban cities and towns," he said.

He believes affirmative action, if implemented correctly, giving people and companies of merit a chance, can equalize an unequal playing field. "We don't live in a color-blind society. And I don't accept that 30 years of civil rights practice and legal initiatives have washed away more than 300 years of prejudice."

Schools — "I think we need to push to expand spending, to have an expansion of preschools and fully fund Head Start," Corzine said.

"Urban schools are not performing as well as anyone would like to see them. I admire NJ's Abbott districts and the ruling by the Supreme Court, but I think the federal government needs to be a part of the process," he said.

He said the government needs to pay attention to implementing smaller class sizes, and the lack of individual attention can handicap kids in the educational process.

He said the best way to accomplish better education in New Jersey is for congress to

see CORZINE A-8

Honoring a hero

Christmas honored for courage in Seton Hall blaze



Right to left: Dana Christmas thanks Metropolitan Baptist church for recognizing her during Dr. Reverend David Jefferson, Sr.'s Sunday service. See CHRISTMAS on page A-8.

Photo: Herb Olsen

Inaccurate water readings plague City of East Orange

By Kelly Foster

For the past five years, the city of East Orange has been plagued with inaccurate water readings, and have lost millions in revenue — which the East Orange Water Commission is now aggressively trying to correct.

The East Orange Water Commission manages the city of Orange's water department, which serves Kearney, South Orange and Harrison.

Previously, the city of East Orange, said the problem was that Orange never had a shutoff policy.

"If people didn't pay their bill, nothing happened to them," said Bowser. "We're going after the bills in arrears. There's a large number we have to go after."

In the meantime, the water commission has been shutting off delinquent accounts, but ran into problems when some water valves blew.

Previously, the city issued only estimated water bills; to correct the problem, the East Orange Water Commission is sending technicians out to homes to manually read each water meter. After the manual readings are finished, the EOWC will analyze the readings and issue new bills that should reflect usage from the previous five years.

Bowser said he wasn't sure if residents were overcharged, but the new phone tracking system would determine that. He said there are outstanding accounts that could total \$1 million.

"We hope to have the readings done by the middle of October," said Bowser. He also said that if residents do not pay after they have received their corrected bills, a tax lien would be put up against their property.

Bowser said the city plans to install equipment in meters that

We are putting the residents of East Orange on notice that they will potentially see an increase in their water bills once we have completed the process.

East Orange Mayor Robert Bowser

can be read by phone lines — eliminating the need for constant manual readings. That system could be in place as early as the spring of next year. "Once that's established, we'll become more accurate and efficient."

"We are in the process of aggressively seeking to correct the problem and issue accurate water bills rather than continue to issue estimated water bills, a practice that we believe has resulted in the loss of millions of dollars in revenue," said Leland McGhee, executive director of the East Orange Water Commission.

McGhee acknowledges that some residents were undercharged, but, like Bowser, he said

he does not have reports of residents being overcharged.

"We are putting the residents of East Orange on notice that they will potentially see an increase in their water bills once we have completed the process," he said.

East Orange resident James Sims said he ran into problems when the Water Commission read his unit, one in a four unit building. Sims said that the whole unit was on one water line, but one unit was vacant.

"They wanted the others to pay the vacant unit's bills," said Sims. He said the problem was resolved at City Hall, and that none of the residents had to pay for the vacant unit.

Bills will be sent to residents based on the city's calculations, said Bowser.

He said once the new phone system is set up, the city will run spot checks by manually checking meters against the phone readings.

In order to protect themselves from inaccurate billing, residents should review all their past water bills, said Anthony Wright, program director for NJ Citizen action, a consumer policy advocacy group.

"Compare current bills with past bills to make sure they make sense," said Wright. "Ask yourself if you used more water than usual. If they have a problem, they should first call the utility company and have them explain the bill." If consumers are not satisfied, they can register a complaint with the Board of Public Utilities, said Wright.

Farrakhan issues plan for families

By Tracy L. Griffith
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Nation of Islam leader Minister Louis Farrakhan said Monday he has a plan for reinventing the nation, starting with the American family.

Farrakhan released his seven-point "National Agenda" for improving the nation during a news conference in Chicago. He detailed areas such as quality of life, morality, political empowerment and international affairs. But he said the plan must begin with improving the condition of the American family.

"Strong families make a strong nation," Farrakhan said. But he warned that the decline of the nation could be explained by its high divorce rate. Farrakhan warned that the disinterest found in many relationships carried over in the political arena.

He cited poor voter turnout in the last general election as evidence of general apathy within America. Farrakhan said his Million Family March on Washington, planned for

Oct. 16, will help combat apathy. The date is the fifth anniversary of the Million Man March.

He said he is inviting families of all backgrounds and faiths to participate in the march and help rebuild family life in America. Farrakhan

said the march will bring family issues to the forefront of the upcoming national election. He called on both parties to develop "family friendly" initiatives and policies.

Farrakhan refused to endorse either political party, but expressed support for Democratic vice presidential candidate Joe Lieberman's effort to keep faith and religion as a part of the national landscape.

With the presidential election a dead heat according to recent polls, Farrakhan said he hoped the march would affect the election. He said the strength of the Million Family March and the "National Agenda" would force the political parties to take disaffected voters seriously.

The seven points which will be addressed at the Million Family March are:

- Family, morality and public policy
- Political empowerment
- Justice issues
- Strengthening the family
- Quality of life
- Economic transformation
- International affairs

POP backs police review board

By Kelly Foster

The Newark based Peoples Organization for Progress (POP) is taking action, calling for more control over the police by citizens.

The results of a police brutality survey distributed to Newark residents shows how

It's necessary to have support from the community if this is going to fly.

dire the subject of police brutality and harassment, according to POP member Kabirah Myers.

"Of the 200 responses so far, at least one third admitted to being victims of police brutality," she said. "That's a lot."

"Our purpose is to get control of a group riddled with corruption," said Larry Hamm, chairman of POP.

Hamm said police brutality cases have a financial impact on taxpayers. "Cities are being sued for these cases and losing. It's costing taxpayers money," he said. Funding for the review board would probably come from local, federal and state governments, he said.

The implementation of the review board will be along term effort, added Hamm, pending legislative hurdles.

In order to implement the review board, POP will petition for referendum on the ballot. They will hold also encourage voter registration, and hold public discussions and build an organization team of Newark residents and supporters.

"It's necessary to have support from the community if this is going to fly," said POP member Debbie Brown.

"Yes, a review board is necessary, but... we have to profile ourselves," said East Orange resident Bob King. He said young people need to be taught how to conduct themselves around police. "We cannot invite police brutality."

POP is focusing its efforts in Newark, their proposed review board is a model that they believe can be followed by any major city.

There is no accountability in the police department," said POP Sophia Willis. "People don't have the resources to air their grievances."

The Civilian-Controlled Police Review Board would be independent of the police department and would be comprised of civilians elected from their wards. Among their duties will be conducting public hearings and overseeing the hiring and actions of investigators.

Upon election to the Board, members will be trained and interaction with the public will be mandated.

Subpoena powers are an important element of forming a review board, said POP member Tracy Luscio. "That's the key to bringing brutal officers to justice," she said.

Subpoena powers will give the board power to demand testimony from police and presentation of evidence.

Other functions of the board include taking complaints from community members about police abuse and investigating those com-

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

PLAINFIELD — (through Sept. 21) — The Mothers' Center of New Jersey, Inc. is holding a children's clothing sale at Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church from 9-2 p.m. For more information, call (908) 755-7746.

JERSEY CITY — NJCU is hosting a seminar on "How To Finance Your College Education" at NJCU women's center from 12-130 p.m. For more information call (201) 200-3189.

JERSEY CITY — (through Oct. 3) NJCU is hosting an art exhibition at the Harold B. Lemmerman Gallery from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information call (201) 200-3246.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

BELLEVEILLE — Clara Mass Medical Center will sponsor "Casino Night" at the Chandelier from 8-11 p.m. For information, call (973) 450-2150.

NEWARK — The NJ Historical Society presents "Explore Architecture" from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For information, call (973) 596-8500.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

CAPE MAY (through Sept. 27) — The Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts hosts The 4th Annual Cape May Food and Wine Festival. For more information call (609) 884-5404.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

CRANFORD — Union County College Theatre is hosting "The Advocate" at 8 p.m. For more information call (908) 709-7501.

JERSEY CITY — NJCU will be hosting a discussion on "Women: raising your self-esteem" at the NJCU women's center from 6-7 p.m. For more information call (201) 200-3189.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

PLAINFIELD — United National Community Education Center is offering "The First Home Club" from 6:30-7:30 p.m. For more information call (908) 753-7364.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

BERKLEY HEIGHTS — The Volunteer Guild of Runnels of Union County is sponsoring a "Something Different" sale in the Multicultural Purpose of the facility from 8 a.m.-4p.m. For more information call (908) 771-5730.

PLAINFIELD — The Plainfield Area YMCA has begun registration for After School Adventure. For information call Carol Anderson Lewis at (908) 756-0565.

HIGHLANDS (through Nov. 1) — The Highland Community Center will host Swing Dance lessons from 8-9p.m. For more information call (732) 842-4000, ext. 237.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

HIGHLANDS (through Nov. 1) — The Highland Community Center will host Swing Dance lessons from 7-8 p.m. For more information call (732) 842-4000, ext. 237.

MORRISTOWN — The Morris Museum will host a trip to the Hudson River Valley. For information, call (973) 538-0454, ext. 250.

NEWARK — The Newark Enterprise Community Resource Development Center is having an open house. From 10-3:00p.m. For more information call (973) 624-8300 ext. 290.

PLAINFIELD — United National Community Education Center is offering "Capture The Moment" from 7-8:30 p.m. For more information call (908) 753-7364.

For community calendar events to: 973-642-5444. Send to: City News Calendar, 111 Mulberry St., Suite 1-F, Newark, NJ 07102. E-mail to: CityNews_news@hotmail.com. Send information at least three weeks prior to

New employees join manufacturing extension program

NEWARK — Tracey Costanzo, of Somerset, has joined New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program, Inc. (NJMEP) as the director for market development. Costanzo is part of the senior management team and is responsible for marketing and distribution strategy.

Before joining NJMEP, Costanzo worked for Ingersoll Rand's Tool and Hoist division as a manager. Global Business Intelligence.

NJMEP has added several new field agents including Anthony DeSantis, Joe Mastrianni, Carol Miller, and Ed Noble.

Anthony DeSantis, River Vale resident, graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University with a B.S. degree in Marketing Management. He began his career at the Burmah Oil Corporation as a member of an extensive management training program. He was successful in progressing through positions in sales, product management and advertising to a national management responsibility.

Ed Noble, a Newark resident, began his career in manufacturing as a rotational molder at Rivendale Plastic Co. After a stint in the Manne Corp, he worked for Dycor Rubber Co. as a lathe operator, precision grinding rubber rollers for the printing industry. Noble worked for Wallace & Tiernan Inc. as an injection and compression molder, lead person, supervisor, methods planner and plastic processing engineer for 28 years. As an engineer, he worked closely with development and engineering in designing injection mold and plastic component parts. In addition, he was responsible for troubleshooting molding problems.

Joe Mastrianni is an experienced manufacturing executive who has led plastics, assembly, packaging and metal component operations. He has been heavily involved in utilizing a number of world class practices including self-managed teams, ISO implementation and lean manufacturing. Mastrianni is also experienced in developing budgets and long-term strategic plans.

Carol Miller, from Jersey City, has over 17 years experience in the manufacturing and service sectors. She has a broad-based background in operations and project management, lean manufacturing, quality assurance, and technology integration. Miller began her career working as an industrial engineer at Raytheon's Electromagnetic Systems Division, and has since worked in a variety of operations and management functions.

Costanzo

DeSantis

Miller

Noble

Mastrianni

Costanzo

DeSantis

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DeSantis

Word on the street

Question of the week:
Do you feel safe in Newark?

John Addison
Orange

"Yes. If something is going to happen, it could happen anywhere."



for 12 years. I have never had problems."

Victoria Collier
Newark

"Yes because I am used to it. I have lived here all my life."

Cece Washington
Newark

"Yes. I was born and raised here and I know how the people are. I where my 'Brick City' shirts everyday."



Edgar Delgado
Newark

"No. There are too many drug addicts. They would kill you for a quarter."

No picture

Kiana Reed
Newark

"Not all the time, only in my neighborhood. It is not safe because of the violence between the 'Bloods' and 'Crips.' People will look out for you in your neighborhood but if you go somewhere else anything could."

Monique Perez
Trenton

"Too much violence. The city is too dangerous."

Jimmy Kim
East Rutherford

"No because there is a lot of drugs dealers. I work in Newark and my store was just recently robbed."

No picture

Mustafa Allen
Woodbridge

"Yes. I have worked here

Jersey City's Kimberly Addison, named Gates Millennium Scholar

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ — Rider University sophomore Kimberly Addison of Jersey City has been selected as a Gates Millennium Scholar for the 2000-2001 school year.

Gates Millennium Scholars demonstrate high academic achievement, leadership capabilities and financial need. The

selected after he presented a reading and a workshop for EOP students on campus. Addison's "high list of achievements include being named to the Dean's List,

serving as vice president of Alpha Lambda Delta; and serving as historian for the Black Student Union. This year she is a resident adviser for Switlik Hall.

A graduate of McNair Academic High School, Addison is the daughter of Rommie and Marnie Addison.

scholarship, funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, promotes academic excellence and further enhances minority students' access to higher education. The award covers tuition, fees, books and other living expenses.

An enthusiast of such literary figures as Ernest Gaines and William Shakespeare, Addison, an English major, is planning to pursue a master's degree upon graduation. She is considering preparing for a career in academia.

"I am very honored to receive this award. My family — including my church family — are my support line. Without them none of this would be possible," said Addison. "A lot of people at Rider, especially the staff at the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), have been very supportive of me. I want to continue to make everyone proud of me."

Last year, Rider University published Addison's essay in its literary chapbook, A Celebration of Ernest Gaines. Her critical essay, "The Batterly Inman in Gaines' 'A Lesson Before Dying,'" was among the five



Addison

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University inserts black student among whites in photo

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Hoping to illustrate its diverse enrollment, the University of Wisconsin at Madison says it doctored a photo on a brochure cover by inserting a black student in a crowd of white football fans.

"It was in this one instance, and it really was an error in judgment," University publications director Al Friedman said. "The university's undergraduate admissions director, Rob Seltzer, said his office sent the summer looking for pictures that would show the school's diversity — but had no luck."

The staff finally settled on a 1993 photo of white Badger fans at a football game. Friedman said his office then altered the photo to add an image of senior Diallo Shabazz taken in 1994.

The university won't discipline those involved because they admitted their mistake and apologized to Shabazz, said Patrick Strickler, a university spokesman. Shabazz said he hopes the incident will encourage the university to work with minority students to improve the campus' climate and recruitment process.

"It's a symptom of a much larger problem," he said. "Diversity on this campus is really not being dealt with. People really don't care about the photo issue. People care about having more students of color on campus."

Farrakhan, black activists attend Mathaba meeting in Libya

SIRTE, LIBYA—Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan and a delegation of black activists from the United States, including Native Americans, were among several hundred activists and 11 heads of states participating in the 3rd Congress of the World Mathaba Aug. 30-31.

The World Mathaba is a Libyan-based organization that dedicated itself in the 1980s to supporting liberation movements in Africa and throughout the world who were attempting to overthrow oppressive regimes. Often times, these revolutionaries were engaged in armed struggle, causing the West to classify many of them as "terrorists."

Efforts of the organization were hampered during the last decade when U.N. sanctions were leveled against the Muslim country.

But today, as noted by host head of state Col. Muammar Gadhafi, many of the activists "receive red-carpet treatment" from world leaders because the activists actually are in ruling parties in their countries—proving the legitimacy of their movements.

The discussion during the conference focused on how world Mathaba (meaning "center") change in light of a new world reality where the armed struggle had been won by many of the revolutionary groups, and globalism has now become the dominant challenge.

"On this historical day and meeting we should reaffirm our existence, we should extend a hand to peace movements," Col. Gadhafi told delegates and heads of state gathered at the opening plenary of the conference. "Mathaba should impose itself on the world arena," and in doing so, Mathaba will be a balance of power to offset the neo-colonialist efforts of western powers. "We are not terrorists, we are freedom fighters," he said.

In his message, Col. Gadhafi called for the formation of an international bank controlled by Mathaba in order to offset control of nations by oppressive financial institutions like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

He said that Mathaba members should form regional trade blocks as a hedge against "imperialist-controlled" globalization and engage in conflict resolution, particularly on the African continent.

News Analysis

Winning a victory for Selma—and a strong black woman

By Carol Prejean Zippert
Co-Publisher of The Greene County Democrat for NNPA

SELMA, Ala. (NNPA)—Shortly after the Selma polls closed at 6 p.m. on Sept. 12, Rose Sanders held the early reports that James Perkins Jr. had won the mayor's race in Selma, becoming the city's first Black mayor by defeating long-term mayor Joe Smithman.

She cautioned the already jubilant supporters that it was too early to celebrate, that the absentee ballots had not been counted. It had been reported that 1,500 absentee ballots had been cast and it was expected that most of these would be for the white nine-term mayor.

Even as more and more of Perkins' supporters arrived at The Gathering Place—the headquarters of Sanders' "Joe Gotta Go" campaign—from various polling places, yelling "We got it! We made it! Perkins won! Joe is gone!" Sanders was still cautious.

Then in walked State Sen. Hank Sanders, whose district includes the city. "Perkins is in," he husband said. "He is almost 2,000 votes ahead of Smithman. The absentee ballots have not been counted, but there is no way that Smithman can make this up."

At that moment Sanders succumbed to uncontrollable tears of joy and relief.

Joy that Selma—the site of 1965's "Bloody

Sunday" Civil Rights Movement protest for the right to vote, blood spilled under Smithman's watch and with his help—would finally have new political leadership in Perkins.

Joy that an era of domination that held all Selma in bondage had ended.

And relief that the Smithman campaign against Rose Sanders would now end. Relief that a significant battle was won.

It was obvious in the mayoral race that incumbent mayor's campaign was actually against public schools. During the race, Smithman hardly mentioned Perkins, except to say that if the three-time candidate became mayor, she, not his rival, would run Selma.

Sanders, a longtime city activist lawyer and a national leader in the fight against the unfair "ability tracking" of Black students into public schools, has been at odds with Smithman for several years. The mayor's flagship was in the late 1980s, when Sanders led a Black student boycott of Selma High School, charging the school unfairly "tracked" Black students, limiting their opportunities. Her violent arrest by Smithman's police left her with an injured back and a stronger resolve.

Smithman's campaign attempted to smear Sanders—to make her the villain for taking to the streets and neighborhoods to organize the electorate for Perkins.

One campaign worker commented: "It is easy to demonize a woman who would stand up. Especially one who is African-American, and as assertive and persistent as Rose Sanders."

During the campaign, leaflets were distributed throughout the community with slogans that disparaged and threatened Sanders. Allegedly, these were produced and distributed throughout the Smithman campaign. A car with Perkins' campaign signs parked in front of Rose and Hank Sanders' law office was set afire.

Hank said his wife was a leader in conceiving and implementing the "Joe Gotta Go" campaign. She named it and led in its difficult door-to-door, neighborhood-to-neighborhood grunt work.

"The street work is where people risk their lives to become human billboards to raise consciousness and to promote the 'Perkins For Mayor' campaign," he said.

The state official added his wife was "instrumental in helping to get folks to come in from around the country to join the effort to remove a longstanding block to freedom."

Hank also gave vital assistance to the campaign by raising funds, promoting voter registration, soliciting volunteers from within and throughout the state, and helping to design the media campaign.

Perkins was asked why he felt the third

time was indeed the charm.

"It was the tremendous passion of the campaign," he said. Actually, there were two complementary campaigns going: The Perkins campaign, whose motto was "Moving Forward United," and the Sanders' "Joe Gotta Go" movement.

Some people responded to the first, while others responded to the second, said the new mayor-elect. The two campaigns, in Perkins' view, worked "separately but in concert."

Said Hank: "If the mayoral race had been lost, Rose would have been blamed. That's a lot of weight to carry when someone else is running."

So when Sanders cried for joy and relief, her tears were well deserved. At that moment, the supporters who had gathered became silent, in both deference and understanding.

The jubilation that burst forth in the streets turned those tears to smiles and laughter. The celebration on Broad Street quickly became infectious. One could not approach it without being drawn in and ignited.

Selma won one battle for justice—Joe is gone—but the struggle goes on to secure relevant education, economic and political empowerment, access to good health care, an end to violence and cultural appreciation among all people.

Carol Prejean Zippert is co-publisher of The Greene County Democrat.

FBI investigated Chamberlain and other basketball players in 1960s

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The FBI investigated Wilt Chamberlain in the late 1960s because of rumors that the basketball great was fixing games, the Philadelphia Daily News reported.

Investigators never found any evidence that the late Hall of Fame center threw a game, and his friends and family members say he didn't. "He was just too honest to do that," Chamberlain's younger sister, Barbara Lewis, said.

The FBI also looked into claims from informants who said the 13-time NBA All-Star bet on basketball — always on his own team to win — according to Chamberlain's FBI file.

Chamberlain loved to gamble, but Wilt "never bet on basketball to my knowledge," said Vince Miller, 62, who knew Chamberlain since the third grade and shared an apartment with him in the late 1960s.

The FBI file through a Freedom of Information Act request. APNews.com also got a copy of the file earlier this year and reported about it on the Web site. The file contains about two dozen documents covering the years from 1960-69 containing mostly rumor, innuendo and unsubstantiated allegations.

Heavily edited sections of the file indicate that other basketball players were suspected of betting. "The FBI investigation 'certifies' Chamberlain was 'Mister Clean,'" said Seymour Goldberg, 69, Chamberlain's longtime attorney and the executor of his estate.

"This is magnificent," Goldberg said. "Who else can you describe in the NBA who's been investigated" by the FBI — especially at a time, he said, when blacks were special tar-

gets. J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director at the time, has long been accused of trying to quell black activism during the civil rights era.

It was not clear if the FBI ever shared its findings with the NBA. A player betting on basketball would face suspension or expulsion under rules in place since "at least the early '50s," said NBA senior vice president Brian McIntyre.

The NBA was unaware of the FBI investigation or of any alleged wrongdoing on Chamberlain's part, McIntyre said.

Chamberlain died in October 1999, at age 63. He starred in the NBA from 1959-73 for the Philadelphia (later San Francisco) Warriors, 76ers and Los Angeles Lakers. He scored 31,419 points during his career, a league record until Kareem Abdul-Jabbar broke it in 1984.

Black law school dean resigns over university's hiring practices

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — The highest-ranking black administrator at the University of Florida law school resigned a week after a stormy meeting over the school's difficulty in attracting and retaining black professors.

Kenneth Nunn, associate dean for law center affairs, and others felt that increasing diversity should be the school's primary concern. Others said race was being overemphasized to the detriment of teaching the school's core courses.

Nunn, who has been at UF since 1990, will remain on the faculty. He was not accepting calls from reporters seeking comment on his actions, his office said.

In an e-mail to the faculty last Tuesday, interim dean Jon Mills said Nunn's decision to step down was based in part on "his concern with

the law school's inability to retain African-American faculty members." Mills said he shares Nunn's concerns. "I have faith that this faculty can work toward a rational and fair solution," Mills said.

The school has employed just seven black professors since 1988 and currently lists only two African-Americans among its 54 tenure or tenure-track faculty.

Stan Huguenin, a spokesman for the law school, said UF works hard to recruit black faculty members, but so does almost every law school in the United States. "There just aren't that many black law professors available," he said.

The situation is much the same at the Florida State University College of Law, where only two of the 33 tenure or tenure-track professors are African-American.

Ad promoting GOP takes shot at 'diversity'

By Laura Meckler
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A conservative group is airing TV ads that urge voters to support Republicans, featuring a woman who says she pulled her son out of public school because there were drugs, violence and "a bit more diversity than he could handle."

The ad is running in Kansas City, Mo., where a bitter battle over school desegregation is being fought. The Republican Ideas Political Committee plans to show it and other ads in additional markets this fall, founder and conservative commentator Richard Nadler said.

Missouri Republicans are wary of the unsolicited help. "We don't have anything to do with that group and certainly wouldn't have anything to do with any ad campaign they're running," said Daryl Duwe, a spokesman for the Missouri Republican Party.

It's one of a series of spots the group is running.

A radio ad, called "A Black Republican," features a black man talking about how he is now a Republican. "Democrats taught me to hate wealth. The Republicans helped me to get some," he says. Other ads deal with privatization of Social Security, one criticizing Democrat Al Gore and the other supporting George W. Bush.

"The goal is to elect Republicans," said Nadler. Nadler said he's raised \$83,000 so far and hopes to collect more than \$100,000 by November. He would not name the other cities where he plans to advertise but said he hopes to help "Republicans up and down the line."

In the Kansas City ad, the narrator tells the story of her fictional family: a daughter who did well in public school and a son who wanted to attend a private school.

"When Jason started hangin' with the wrong crowd, we had to act fast," the woman says. "We didn't want him where drugs and violence were fashionable. It was a bit more diversity than he could handle."

The woman emphasizes the word "diversity," and as she says it, a multiracial group of children is seen hanging out near a stairway.

The 60-second ad goes on to promote educational savings accounts, which give parents tax breaks to save for tuition. The ads end with the words "Vote Republican" across the screen.

Democrats argued that the ad had racist overtones, saying "diversity" was a code word for racial minorities.

National Committee spokeswoman Jenny Backus said the ad had "Willie Horton" echoes in it, a reference to a 1988 ad by an independent group about a Massachusetts prison furlough program that was widely viewed as a racist swipe at Democrat Michael Dukakis.

"It's important to stand up and say there's no room for tactics like this," she said. "Instead of being deplored, diversity should be celebrated."

DNC Chairman Joe Andrew called on his Republican counterpart, Jim Nicholson, to repudiate the ad. "This race-baiting ad feeds people's worst fears about the real challenges facing schools today," Andrew wrote him last Tuesday. "I hope you'll agree that the ad is repugnant to all Americans."

Ad expert Kathleen Hall Jamieson agreed that the ad had a racial flavor. "Instead of making a case for parental choice it appears to make the case against diversity," said Jamieson of the University of Pennsylvania. "Diversity is a code word for either a social class the woman finds offensive or a racial minority the person finds offensive, or both."

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EDITORIAL

Money is not the root of all evil

Now that Jon Corzine, candidate for US Senate has divulged his charitable contributions, the rhetoric has once again turned to his advantage to spend his own money to win this race. In New York, the clamor is how beholden do candidates have to be to the big interests that are funding the senate race there. For all the candidates, it seems you're damned if you do and damned if you don't.

Corzine's ability to fund his campaign buds well with some people who feel that he won't be in anyone's pocket should he win the seat. That could mean that he will vote his conscience without regard to whose toes may be stepped on. In addition, let's get real, money or the lack thereof, is only one factor in the decision of who runs for office as witnessed by Forbes' bid for president.

Ultimately, independence is what we should want our candidates to have in order to make the best decisions in our interests without ulterior motives playing in the background of policy decisions. Corzine has used his own money to make contributions to many worthwhile organizations, and there's nothing wrong with that, despite the outcry from the naysayers.

However, the issue of campaign financing will not disappear, because one candidate has broken free. Until a massive reform is made, we will still have candidates who are chained to big business and money interests and not to the people they serve.

Letter to the Editor

Presidential race for dollars, but where's the democracy?

By Mark C. Smith

It seems there are some fundamental things we miss out on as Americans.

Most of all, the truth.

For example, so far in the Year 2000 Presidential campaign, there have been given over \$100 million dollars by private interests. Add to this the \$100's of millions that go to congressional, state, and local campaigns, all to guarantee that there will be business friendly politicians in office.

If last presidential election was any sign, a majority of us are so turned off by our own political system, we won't even show up at the polls to have our little say.

Yet like trained parrots, many of us echo the slogan that the United States is a democracy, rule of the majority. Some even call this the best democracy in the world.

And we look 90 miles south of Florida with contempt, calling Cuba a totalitarian dictatorship where no one has any rights.

We know nothing of Cuba's nationwide elections held in 1997-1998 when the entire population elected their leaders.

We know nothing of their elec-

Will the real Dick Cheney please stand up?

By Lloyd Williams

As the browning of America unfolds, with minorities an emerging majority, the prospect of unparalleled political ineptitude looms. Despite the Republican scramble to reposition itself as an omni-inclusive umbrella Party, the fact remains that George W. Bush's first step towards that kinder, gentler conservatism was to pick Dick Cheney as a running mate.

Out on the electronic campaign trail, the Bush-Cheney team talk only in non-committal aphorisms, that predetermined pabulum prepared by pollsters. In the Information Age, strategists are well aware that safe, saccharine soundbites will serve their candidates better than substance. Ironically, the truth has become of less and less importance due to the human reliance on television as a source for knowledge.

In the jet age, it might appear that the wheel is obsolete? After all, let us only trace the wheel to slow down. But the wheel remains critical, even if taken for granted. Similarly, it might also appear nowadays that the truth is obsolete because television has substituted itself for reality. But the wheel would be a mistake to presume a cultural capitulation to superficiality.

No matter how pervasive electronic media, its artificiality will never subsume the citadel of individual consciousness. The human soul is not for sale, and thus, accessible to TV, thank God. Thus, deep-down, the electorate must be truly interested in knowing who the real Dick Cheney is. Scratch the surface and you find a monster who looks a lot more like Lon Chaney than the image-makers' grandfatherly baby-kisser.

Examine the man's voting record in Congress and you realize that he's arbitrarily distancing himself, temporarily, from an over-privileged past which runs

Bush and Cheney's downward spiral continues

By Rev. Frank Garrett, Jr.

Blank. Like a ball of yarn in the clutches of a kitten on LSD, the Bush/Cheney team is unraveling a yard at a time. As his smirky style now evolves into a deer in the headlights look, the once cocky contender has to humble himself.

He told reporters in Detroit yesterday he is restyling his campaign to include more intimate gatherings with voters. How special? To suddenly start including those he wants to vote him into office is a sure sign the Ivory Tower style of campaigning has no juice. It will be interesting to see if George hobnobbing in coffee shops and Turkish baths to try and regain some favor with the people.

This change comes as Republicans are beginning to express concern, both publicly and privately, over the race. Bob Novak, the guru on CNN's Crossfire program, wrote in his latest op-ed piece, "George W. Bush needs to change the atmosphere to keep panicky backers from heading for the high grass." He went on to write, "Where are the governors?

Where's the cavalry that's supposed to be coming over the hill?"

Poor Bush is out there all alone defending himself. Yeah, against his own foot-in-the-mouth disease and a now really burdensome running mate. "Rich" Dick Cheney has been exposed as an extremely wealthy man with little or no compassion when it comes to charitable giving. His chump change benevolence last year when he took home \$4 million, and \$30 million in speaking packages from Halliburton is presenting his problem.

Now his voting records out of Dallas where he registered in December of 1995 reveal he has skipped 14 of 16 elections. This includes March when he could have cast a vote for current running mate, Bush. Kind of kinky to have someone asking for our vote but he doesn't think enough of politics to do it himself. What a hypocrite.

Jude Wansnick, a prominent Bush supporter, circulated a three page e-mail to clients of his asset management firm Polycomics, lambasting the campaign for television ads attacking Gore, for failing to reach out effectively to black voters and for puzzling running mate Dick Cheney, whose personal finances and recently revealed sorry voting record have presented big time public relations problems.

"Right now, he's a loser," Wansnick said of Bush. Some GOP insiders say Bush's use of a vulgarity to describe a New York Times reporter — picked up by microphones at a Labor Day campaign appearance — made him look like an amateur at best.

This prognosticator is not convinced he can pull it off. The gate is open and the cow is out of the barn now. What was once a plan to capture the White House by ignoring war and my house has done a French Concord; crashed and burned. In the Lone Star state executions have been curtailed until after the elections to help him with his Chief Executioner image problem.

There will only be three executions between now and Nov. 7, hip-hop-hourly. Latino groups are asking for specifics on policy and they want it in English this time. He thinks there is fear in them eyes. Can I get an amen? Peace.

Andrey Yev

Candidates not quite acquainted with the black community

By Emory Curtis

I don't get it. Why were national Black political leaders like U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.), Jesse Jackson Sr., and U.S. Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.) so riled up about Senator Joseph Lieberman's previous stance against affirmative action?

So what if he is not in favor of affirmative action? If Gore wins, Lieberman will be the vice-president and a vice-president has to follow policy directions from the president, not give directions.

At the Democratic Convention in Los Angeles, the Black Caucus got Lieberman to hew to the Clinton-Gore line on affirmative action: "Mend it, don't end it." That line sounds good, but means nothing. Neither Clinton, Gore nor Lieberman have come out with what needs mending and how it should be mended.

However, by getting Lieberman to buy into the already blessed Clinton-Gore line, the black political leaders at the convention got some cover to go out and sell Gore-Lieberman to the rest of us. They need that cover and more to get

black voters to enthusiastically back this ticket with a healthy turnout.

Selling Clinton-Gore's program as a continuation of the Clinton policy without Clinton is going to be difficult. For one, Clinton's success has been his ability to take Republican ideas, stamp his name on it, and then sell it to Democrats and Republicans as his innovation.

That's what he did with welfare reform, NAFTA and crime. On each of those issues, Democrats used to be vulnerable to Republican attacks on them for wasting money on welfare, being against free trade, and soft on crime.

As result of Clinton's leadership, the Republicans haven't been able to mount attacks on the Democratic Party. And for good reason: the Democrats have taken the Republican's old positions.

Clinton was able to do that and keep in line his core supporters — labor, Blacks, and white left of the liberal Democrats. And when needed, he had those leadership skills that could rouse his supporters.

No matter what you think of president Clinton, his talents fit today's leadership environment like a glove. He is likeable, has a way with words (in the vernacular, a hint, tongue) and a quick mind. That's the kind of person that would be interesting to visit with, meet at a small party or look at on TV in the living room with friends or in the bedroom before you doze off to sleep.

Moreover, obviously he likes people and likes being around people, even us. He takes to Blacks like a rabbit in a briar patch.

Neither Al Gore nor Lieberman is at home among us, so far. To get the kind of support in the black community that Clinton gets, they are going to have to show support for some action on issues of color. With a tongue and a mind was do.

That's going to be hard for them to do. After all, the central focus of the Democratic and Republican presidential campaigns are those middle class voters who switch their votes between the major parties. That's why the party platform of both parties essentially ignore issues of direct concern to us as a minority and to the low-income voters.

The Gore team can use another approach. Spend a small portion of their multi-mega-dollar advertising budget on black media, especially the weeklies that service our communities all over this country.

To be effective that kind of program ought to start around Labor Day and continue on through the election. Its focus ought to be on the issues of concern to readers of those publications, not just a "vote for me" type of campaign.

If the Gore team did that, it would be a first. Too often, even Black candidates fail to advertise in the little weeklies that service their area. And then, at the last, many of them have the nerve to expect an endorsement and free space.

As you sort through the confusing data on candidates and issues, make a note of the candidates and issues that are spending money on TV ads. And then check your weekly to see if those same candidates and issues respect you and your community enough to place ads in the weeklies to reach you.



By Candace Kelly

Just 'Saying No to Drugs: The Right of Patrick Dorismond

vides that a government cannot "deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, with due process of the law, nor deny any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." The 13th Amendment outlawed slavery. The 14th Amendment provides equal protection of the laws. The 15th Amendment afforded African-American the right to vote. Years of cases have also defined these civil rights to include the right to use contraceptives, have an abortion, and withhold medical treatment.

Fast forward to the Civil Rights Movement of the 60's, which resulted in the passage of more recent civil rights legislation. The most important, some would say was the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964. Civil Rights Law VII prohibits discrimination of any type in the above listed Civil Rights. The protection extends to age discrimination, education and disabilities. The Dorismond family are suing because they feel Patrick Dorismond's federal civil rights

were violated based upon the fact that he was shot because he was black. The race factor is what pushes the case right under the umbrella of protected civil rights.

If it doesn't seem that clear, it's not. Think about it. T h o m a s J e f f e r s o n already promised equality for all in 1776, and then there's the Bill of Rights. The Civil War then extended those rights further with the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments. But it wasn't until the 60's that America groomed the heroic campaign that we call the Civil Rights Movement only to remind people of the rights that we already had.

It may seem redundant but the same principle moves on. We must constantly remind people of the rights for which we have fought. On a day-to-day basis, we each remember in our own little, sometimes big way about the rights we already have.

If you haven't noticed, we have long been in another into another phase of reminding people of rights that we already have. One surprisingly very important one being the right to say no to drugs.

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Nine ways to improve your relationship with others

By Herbert Harris

Make yourself likable.

Your power to be liked by others is invaluable to your success journey. To be likable, you must first like yourself. Then, this positive feeling you have about yourself will be projected to others through your attitude. When people like you, they will do things to help and assist you in accomplishing your goals and realizing your vision.

"A (person) who hath friends must show (themselves) friendly..." (Proverbs 18:24)

Always remember people's names.

There is no sound more pleasant to another person than the sound of their own name. When you remember people's names, they like it. It makes them feel that you think they are special.

Express appreciation for what other people do.

When you show appreciation for what others do, you give value to and validate their efforts.

Be lavish in your praise.

Praise expresses your approval of what others do. It uplifts them and inspires them to do even more.

Listen intently to other people's words, comprehending, understanding, and reacting to them.

Communication has too often become the practice of two people, each waiting for the other person to finish talking, so he or she can start talking again. Very few people really listen to the other person. They are too busy thinking about what they are going to say next. How you listen is more important than what you say. Listen to the other person's whole story first.

Let the interests of the other person be the topic of conversation.

The best way to get and keep another person's attention, is not by smooth talk designed to impress them with your own accomplishments. You get their attention by encouraging them to talk about their own accomplishments, their goals and aspirations.

Make the other person feel important.

Recognize and acknowledge the importance of everyone you meet. Always focus the conversation on the other person. Be conscious of their needs and do your best to meet those needs. Be courteous and helpful in ways that are meaningful to the other person.

Do not criticize.

Live above petty criticism. Treat others the way you would like to be treated. Let love motivate your attitudes and your actions. Desire the best for everyone you meet. Be willing to go the extra mile, especially if it will bring more knowledge and understanding. When you throw dirt, you lose ground.

Always believe that there is a way to achieve the best results.

Know that people come into your life experience for a reason. When your self-image is intact, be assured that you will only attract those people who are in harmony with how you feel about yourself. The others will be repelled by the positive aura that surrounds you.

Therefore, don't hold back in building positive relationships. Do all you can to nurture and develop these relationships into long term associations of positive, mutual benefit.

Based on "The Golden 12: Universal Rules for Achieving Success" by Herbert Harris. The book is published by Marlowe & Co. It is available at Barnes & Noble and most local and online bookstores or by calling (800) 788-3123. Call (800) 775-0712, ext. 8140 or e-mail lifeskill@prodigy.net.

He spearheaded the New Hope Village housing complex and the rebuilding of the church from a 500 seat to a 1,500 seat edifice.



By Diane Blackmon

Through love and faithfulness sin is atoned for; through the fear of the Lord a man avoids evil.
(Proverbs 16:6-7)

It's a done deal... Vickie Winans has signed with Tommy Boy Gospel. The gospel diva is also in the process of releasing a CD for children.

Fl. Lauderdale represented recently in support of Miami/Ft. Lauderdale's premiere gospel music producer, Pastor Marc Cooper. Pastor Cooper, the man behind the phenomenal Stellar Award winning Miami Mass Choir, is currently on Savoy Records. The CD concert release, hosted by WMBM radio personality, "Lydia Goodin," showcased selections from their latest album "Just For You."

Keeping it in the family... Mega hit producer, Fred Jerking III, brother of Rodney Jerking, launched his new gospel music company, Dark Child Gospel, recently at Trump Taj Mahal, in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Fred Jerking has produced re-mixes for Mary Mary and Trinitee 5-7. He's also worked with Dawkins & Dawkins, The Winans, Phase II, Michael Jackson, Dark Child Gospel will partner with Gospel-Centric and B-Rite Records. The 14th Annual National Gospel Music Conference, (three day event), will feature seminars, nightly workshops, musicals and

more happenings, in Los Angeles, October 18-21. For information call 673-7730.

The Gospel Music Hall of Fame Induction Dinner is going on in the Motor City, Detroit, MI. There will be saluting and inducting, of some of gospel music's finest. The dinner will be held on October 21, at the Marriott Hotel. For specifics call David at (313) 592-0017. Susan Taylor, former editor-in-chief and now publications director of Essence Magazine, has a new book. The book, "In the Spirit," based on her popular magazine column, offers motivation, inspiration and methods of working through life's problems.

Women in the Ministry... An evangelist paving the way for women in ministry around the world, Jackie McCullough, a native of Jamaica, is spreading the good news. Helping to heal hearts, souls and spirits. Rev. McCullough keeps a busy schedule, as minister, author, counselor, broadcaster and songwriter. She is associate pastor at Elum International Fellowship. McCullough recent-

New Hope's Rev. Thomas to retire after 32 years

NEWARK — The New Hope Baptist Church will sponsor a week-long retirement celebration in honor of its senior pastor Rev. Dr. Charles E. Thomas, Oct. 15-22.

Rev. Thomas is retiring after 32 years of service to The New Hope Baptist Church and community.

Rev. Thomas began his pastoral tenure in 1968. He was instrumental in developing the New Hope Baptist Church Day Care Center, Construction Trade Training Program and the Food and Clothing Ministry for the Needy.

In addition to a host of other projects, he spearheaded the New Hope Village housing complex and the rebuilding of the church from a 500 seat to a 1,500 seat edifice.

The week-long celebration will include a Sunday service on Oct. 15; weekly services hosted by various churches and choirs from Oct. 16-Oct. 20; a banquet at

the Robert Treat Hotel on Oct. 21; and a culminating celebration on Oct. 22 at New Hope which will include a morning service, an afternoon reception and program hosted by the New Hope Baptist Church. Mass Choir. Representatives from the corporate sector, community-based organizations, local and national elected officials, and members of local and regional churches are among the invited guests for the celebration.

For addition, information, on the weekly program, banquet, culminating program and tickets contact: Vincent Rouse, office manager at The New Hope Baptist Church, at (973) 622-4547, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. New Hope Baptist Church, which was established in the early 1900's, is one of the city's oldest Baptist churches. The church was established by two sisters and was located briefly at two other sites before its move to Sussex Avenue between Day and Locke Streets.

ly appeared at the Harvest Fire Conference in Los Angeles.

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Television ads to air looking for priests

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh hopes to score some points with armchair quarterbacks this fall.

The diocese will air a television ad campaign during weekend football games, aimed at attracting men to enter the priesthood.

The ads, each 30 seconds long, are being paid for with a grant from the estate of the late Monsignor Francis J. Rooney, who died in June 1999.

"He loved the Steelers and he

loved the priesthood," said Sister Frances Rooney, Rooney's sister.

The Pittsburgh diocese has witnessed a 25-year decline in the number of active priests and the number of men entering the seminary.

There is also an increasing number of priests reaching retirement age.

"To reach the target audience of males between the ages of 18 and 45, market research indicates the best medium is sports programs," said David Bonnar, director of diocese vocations.

Religious Calendar

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

NEWARK — "Be Careful What You Pray For," a gospel play, will be performed at the Sarah Vaughn Concert Hall at 8 p.m. For more information call (973) 643-8013.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

NEWARK — "Sisters in the Spirit" featuring Yolanda Adams, Shirley Caesar, and Mary Mary will perform at the Sarah Vaughn Concert Hall at 8 p.m. For more information call (973) 643-8013.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

NEWARK — "Woman, Thou Art Loosed," a gospel play, will be performed at the Sarah Vaughn Concert Hall at 8 p.m. For more information call (973) 643-8013.

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Clerk who stole Malcolm X's diary given fine, service

By Samuel Maul
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A former Manhattan court clerk was sentenced last Tuesday to 150 hours of community service and fined \$5,000 for stealing the bloody, bullet-pocked datebook that Malcolm X was carrying when he was assassinated.

Douglas Henderson, 42, was also placed on probation for five years by State Supreme Court Justice Jeffrey Albee who ordered him to stay away from the Shabazz family, the last name Malcolm X adopted before he died.

Henderson, a clerk for 15 years in the Manhattan Criminal Courts Building, interrupted his trial in July and pleaded guilty to third-degree grand larceny in exchange for a deal that kept him out of jail.

Henderson, who earned \$44,000 a year, admitted that he took the 3-by-5-inch, 146-page, red leatherette datebook from a courthouse evidence safe in 1991 and sold it six years later for \$5,000. After the diary was put up for sale by a California auction house, it was traced back to Henderson.

At one point Henderson claimed he took the diary because he was devoted to the teachings and memory of Malcolm X and intended to keep it in a safe place until he could return it to the slain civil rights leader's family.

But Albee said that despite the "spin" Henderson was putting on his admission of guilt, he took something that didn't belong to him. "He knew it didn't belong to him. He kept it, and that is stealing," the judge said.

The diary was pierced in Malcolm X's left breast pocket when he was shot by three gunmen as he spoke in Harlem's Audubon Ballroom on Feb. 21, 1965. It was used as evidence at his trial, and all three were convicted.

"Ten years ago I made a very terrible mistake," Henderson said as he apologized to the court and to the Shabazz family. "I never meant to hurt the memory of Malcolm X or his family."

Albee noted that it will now be difficult — if not impossible — for Henderson, now in his last year of law school, to become an attorney because he has a felony conviction.

One killed, two hurt in crash on Ben Franklin Bridge

CAMDEN, N.J. (AP) — A woman was killed and two other people were hurt last Monday in a collision on the Benjamin Franklin Bridge that forced the closure of all westbound lanes for more than an hour.

A Nissan sedan was headed east on the bridge at about 2:30 p.m. when it crossed into westbound traffic and hit a Volkswagen, said My Linh Nguyen, a spokeswoman for the Delaware River Port Authority, which operates the bridge.

A third car, a Ford station wagon, which also was headed west, then collided with the Nissan, she said.

The women driving the Volkswagen died later due to injuries from the crash, Nguyen said. The woman's identity was not released last Monday night.

The woman driving the Nissan had to be extracted. The male driver of the Ford was the least seriously injured. Both were taken to Cooper Hospital University Medical Center. The Nissan driver was in stable condition, Nguyen said. The Ford driver was later transferred to West Jersey Hospital, Nguyen said. His condition was not available.

There were no passengers in any of the cars, she said.

All westbound lanes were closed and only one eastbound lane was in use from before 3 p.m. until after 4 p.m.

Whitman admits 'mistakes in 1st speech to NAACP after frisk photo

By Wayne Parry
Associated Press Writer

SOMERSET, N.J. (AP) — Admitting "I've made mistakes," Gov. Christine Whitman addressed the state NAACP convention last Saturday for the first time since the now-infamous photo of her frisking a black man during a police sweep in Camden surfaced.

The governor acknowledged lingering resentment over the photo in the black community, but said black clergy and community leaders know she has worked hard to improve things for minorities.

Whitman made only an oblique reference to the incident in her speech, which was devoted mainly to a defense of affirmative action and a pledge to ensure that no one gets left behind in the state's high-tech economy.

But in an interview afterward, Whitman said she realizes black anger over the photo has not completely disappeared.

"I'm not at all surprised there's some resentment," she said. "That was a bad photo; there's no question."

In the 4-year-old photograph obtained by The Associated Press, Whitman is standing behind a black man, his arms spread, palms pressed against a wall. The governor is wearing jeans, a sweat shirt, a baseball cap and black gloves and appears to be smiling.

It was taken during a police sweep of a Camden neighborhood. The governor said

she participated in the pat-down search because she wanted to fully experience police work. The man in the photo was not charged with a crime.

Whitman's comments seemed to indicate a softening of her position on the photo. Immediately after it became public, she adopted a defiant stance and refused calls for her to apologize, suggesting critics were trying to "bully" her out of making reforms in Camden, New Jersey's poorest city, including a takeover of municipal government.

Mayor Milton Milan has been indicted on corruption charges, the third of the city's last four mayors to face charges.

Gov. Christine Todd Whitman

Before Whitman arrived at the convention, held at the Somerset Marriott, some speakers criticized the administration's handling of Camden, noting continued problems there.

"You look at Camden today, and if I lived in Camden, I'd say enough hasn't been done, too," Whitman said after her speech. "But it's more than has been done in any other administration. We have one of the finest charter schools in Camden. We have new housing starts; we're building new neighborhoods."

"The problem with Camden is getting past an administration that one after another has been stealing hope from the residents," the governor said.

Some NAACP officials said Whitman's appearance before the group should help ease tensions over the photo.

"I can't see her doing something deliberately negative toward anybody," said Mary Lee Gilmore, the New Jersey chapter's secretary. "People wonder why she did that photo. I think she did it because she was asked to; she didn't realize the negative

side of it. "She's not that kind of person," Gilmore said. "I try to tell people that's not her."

Likewise, Raymond Daniels, who is heading the group's voter registration efforts, said he was encouraged Whitman addressed the conference. He noted she has addressed past NAACP conferences as well.

"Her presence, I think, makes a great statement," he said. "Any opportunity for a (politician) from either party to reach out to minorities is a good thing."

Passaic schools turn over documents in investigation

School doctor accused of practicing with revoked license

PASSAIC (AP) — School officials have turned over several documents in connection with an ongoing probe of whether the district's doctor treated students after his license was revoked.

The probe of Edward S. Feldner began after the district, which has 11,000 students, received a tip that he had given up his medical license after admitting he wrote prescriptions for others that were for his own use.

Feldner was hired by the district in 1996 and received about \$50,000 a year, Holster said. School board members approved a new one-year contract for Feldner in August 1999, five days before his license was revoked by the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners.

Superintendent of Schools Robert

Holster said last Monday that he turned over copies of Feldner's contract and his malpractice insurance policy to police.

"If the state had taken away his license five days before Feldner's contract was approved, it would be going after him for fraud, too," Holster told The Herald News of West Paterson for last Tuesday's editions.

School officials say they were not told by Feldner that he no longer held his license. He has not contacted the district since the probe began, Holster said.

The district has contracted with another physician to redo all of Feldner's recent work, including student physicals. They hope to hire a permanent replacement by the end of the year.

New Jerseyans favor abolishing tenure for teachers

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — A majority of New Jersey residents think public school teachers shouldn't have tenure, according to a Gannett New Jersey poll released last Sunday.

When asked if tenure should be retained or abolished, 59 percent said it should be scrapped, while only 30 percent favored keeping it.

Meanwhile, seven out of 10 of those surveyed said teachers' pay should be based on performance. Many used using student scores on standardized tests as a benchmark.

Pollsters randomly surveyed 551 New Jersey adults by phone from Aug. 24 through Aug. 27. The poll has a margin of error of 4 percentage points.

Ralph Hanmann of Moorestown said there was probably a good reason for creating tenure, but he still opposes it.

"It's counter to the way a lot of business is done, and it can allow teachers to coast," he told the Gannett New Jersey Bureau.

A New Jersey Education Association spokeswoman said the poll results indicate nothing new. Spokeswoman Lynn Maher said many people don't under-

stand that tenure simply requires hearings for teachers before they can be fired.

Teachers qualify for tenure at the beginning of their fourth year of work. After that, districts must follow a process that allows teachers to defend themselves against complaints before they can be dismissed.

"When people have tenure, they don't have a job for life," Maher said. "That's not what tenure is."

She suggested that more of the people surveyed would have supported tenure if the word "tenure" was replaced with the term "due process."

While tenured teachers can be fired, Michael Yapple of the New Jersey School Boards Association said it's a difficult process most districts are reluctant to undertake. Firing a teacher can take up to 12 months and cost more than \$100,000 in legal fees.

The association opposes the current tenure system.

"Theoretically they can't be fired," Yapple said. "Occasionally they are. The blunt reality is it is so expensive to remove a teacher and so lengthy that only the worst violations are (homed) in."

Yapple said a 1994 survey done by the school boards association

indicated that districts undertook firing 30 tenured teachers in 1993. That was the last year the group did the survey, but he said the number has probably stayed the same.

Maher said that survey isn't the best indication of how often districts get rid of unsatisfactory teachers, because supervisors instead often urge unsuccessful teachers to leave their jobs.

"We see a lot of people counseled out of teaching," she said. New Jersey became the first state to provide tenure to teachers.

In 1909, The system was created to protect teachers from arbitrary dismissals that occurred when control of city hall changed.

While there are no movements to eliminate tenure in New Jersey, Republican Assemblyman Guy Greg of Morris County has proposed a bill to eliminate tenure for principals and other administrators.

In other states, tenure has become a hot issue. Georgia eliminated tenure, and Louisiana gubernatorial committee recommendations replacing it with individual

contracts. The poll also asked if a teacher's pay should be based on job performance or something else. Seventy-one percent of the respondents said job performance should be the basis and 17 percent said something else. The other 12 percent said they were undecided or it depended on circumstances. Asked what factors were most important in judging a teacher's job performance, respondents ranked standardized test scores at the top, and teacher experience and peer opinions at the bottom.

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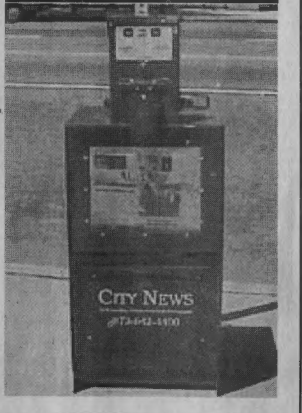
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Montclair State University police get conditional OK to carry

MONTCLAIR, N.J. (AP) — Montclair State University will allow campus police to carry firearms — but only in emergencies.

Under the new policy, adopted by the Board of Trustees last week, the officers would receive firearms when they respond to incidents with a "potential threat to life" that require help from nearby municipal police departments.

Officers in the 10-member Vice president for student development and campus life, Montclair State University also would get

school officials say recent incidents of school violence spurred the change.

"It doesn't mean that our campus is any less safe," Karen Pennington, vice president for student development and campus life told The Record of Hackensack last Tuesday's editions. "It's important that the police officers have access to equipment they might need to protect themselves and protect the community."

A recent letter written by university president, Susan Cole to the college community says campus police were involved in 15 incidents involving handguns or the threatened use of handguns between 1994 through 1999. During that same time, officers responded to 36 other calls involving other lethal weapons.

Karen Pennington

guns when helping police in neighboring towns and when transporting prisoners off campus.

Some students have criticized the policy change, saying it will increase tensions between minority students and campus police. But

The mushroom that consumed an entire ninth-grade class.



It all started very innocently with a small discovery in the woods near Memorial School in Millville, New Jersey. Biology students exploring the wetlands came upon a mushroom they'd never seen before. Textbooks failed to identify the unusual fungus.

That's when Ray Jacobs' ninth-grade class became consumed by something really big.

With the help of high-speed Internet access provided by Verizon, students found a fungus

expert at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse. They took photos of their mushroom, emailed Professor Tom Volk and in no time at all had their mushroom identified. Through the use of interactive video technology, they could even ask him questions directly.

Discoveries like this are taking place every day all over New Jersey. High-speed Internet connections and interactive video technology open doors and bring the world to the classroom by offering access to people, places and ideas regardless of geographic constraints. Verizon's vision for the future of learning is a reality in New Jersey.

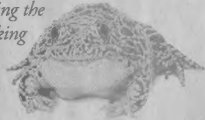
And it's just the beginning. For ninth graders in Millville, Access New JerseySM means instant access to a world of knowledge. Which means they can spend less time in front of their computers and more time learning from the world just outside their doors. So while some believe technology is making the world a smaller place, we believe it's making the world bigger.



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Lab learning helps fight cancer at Rider Univ.

LAWRENCEVILLE —This summer, several Rider University students were immersed in innovative research, thoroughly integrating cutting-edge technology with the knowledge they have gained in the classroom. For them, the lazy, hot days of summer beckons fun in the lab.

When it comes to breast cancer research, senior biology majors Benedicte Duho of Bloomfield and Barbara Kuske of Piscataway are analyzing the roles enzymes play in breast cancer development.

"To find the best treatment for breast cancer, we need to find out how breast cancer grows, what impacts its growth and the role protease inhibitors play in their growth," said Kuske, who plans to attend medical school. Proteases are enzymes or substances such as hormones that may activate other proteins, such as hormones and growth factors, to act in stimulating cell growth. A protease inhibitor is a substance that could block the activation of that hormone and in turn block the growth of those cells, she noted.

By manipulating cell cultures with various enzymes in cell culture flasks, both students are focusing on TGF-Alpha-the particular growth factor that is clipped off the cell membrane and stimulates breast cancer cells to grow. "The cells we're analyzing come from deceased breast cancer patients. 'So far we know that protease inhibitors are present in breast cancer cells, but we're trying to define the different factors that influence it in order to shed further light on the disease process,'" added Duho, who also plans to attend medical school.

Under the mentorship of Dr. Jonathan Yavelow, professor of biology, Duho, a native of the Volta Region in Ghana, and Kuske, a native of Leipzig, East Germany, know they are taking small steps in the right direction toward medical progress.

"Benedicte and Barbara have fallen in love with their work. They care greatly about what they are doing," said Yavelow, whose work is supported by an NIH Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) grant. "It is great to see that they are working to find creative and effective ways to kill breast cancer cells. Both of these students are fine examples of what Rider is all about—transforming students into first-rate professionals."

Corzine

Continued from A-1

increase the amount of spending. According to Corzine, only 7 percent of the federal government's educational spending budget is currently spent on education in the state — which he believes puts more burden on the state to depend heavily on property taxes, which contributes to unfair funding distributions in the state's educational system.

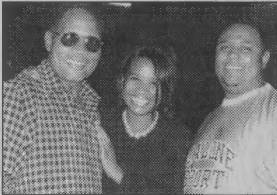
"We need to increase our pie all around," he said and intends to push his efforts to increase funding for programs like Head Start and after school community based programs pass if he's elected.

Corzine has also been pushing for the Hope Scholarship program, which would guarantee students with a B average two years of higher education.

Prudential donates backpacks to kids

Celebrities turn out for Baraka campaign benefit

Lauren Hill showed skill on the auction block



Newark Mayor Sharpe James, Wanda Wilson and DJ Qua were happy to attend the benefit auction.



At the auction, Stage Manager, Spencer Graves; Boxer Nasir Graham; 76 Olympic Gold Medalist Boxer Howard Davis Jr.

In Newark, recently Lauren Hill proved that on top of her singing and rapping abilities, she has auctioning skills, too.

Hosted by HOT 97's DJ Steph Lova and local entertainer L.A. Suave, the Celebrity Auction to benefit Ras Baraka's 2002 bid for Newark City Council seat drew some 350 people.

Performers included Terry Dexter on University Records; Fundisha on Epic Records; Joya Carmel on Park Records; unsigned artist, Jahid; and a drumming group from St. Peter's Recreation Center.

Hill auctioned off a "Miseducation of Lauren Hill" jacket that commanded some \$2500. The other highlight of the event was a poem by Gwendolyn Brooks that commanded \$200; and shoes and a hat that were worn in "Bring in da noise, bring in da funk" by Savion Glover which bought in \$700; a poem from Maya Angelou that went for \$1500; and a copy of the book "Blues People," which was donated by Amiri Baraka, Sr.

The crowd did get a treat, as Lauren sang a verse from her song "Zion."

By the end of the night, a generous Baraka supporter offered to buy all remaining items for \$25,000.

HOT 97 DJ Steph Lova keeps the auction flowing



Lauren Hill auctions her jacket

Photo: Glenn Frieson

Caldwell College breaks ground for new \$8.2 million student activities recreation center



College and local officials break ground on the new center.

CALDWELL, NJ — State and local officials will joined the Caldwell College community Sept. 16 for a groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate the construction of a new Student Activities and Recreation Center. The ceremony took place on the parking lot adjacent to the Student Center.

The 60,000 square foot Student Activities and Recreation Center, estimated to be completed in January 2002 for \$8.2 million, will house a large gym with two practice basketball courts, which can be used simultaneously, and a game court with retractable seating for 1,400 spectators. A running/walking track will be built around the perimeter of the gym above the basketball courts.

The new center will also have meeting and activity rooms, a game room, student activities offices, a relocated fitness center, aerobics room, locker rooms and athletic offices. The college's

bookstore will also be relocated to the building and expanded.

The groundbreaking ceremony follows completion of a phase one Loop Roadway project this summer to improve campus parking.

The Loop Roadway, which provides campus-wide linear parking and two-way traffic patterns, adds almost 300 additional parking spaces and keeps most of the automobile traffic away from the heart of the campus.

The campus now has a total of over 950 parking spaces compared to 660 spaces previously. Also, additional spaces were added to the Mother Joseph Residence Hall parking lot for students living on campus to bring the total spaces there to approximately 140.

The Loop Roadway project also made available new campus lighting, landscaping and the construction of walkways from the parking areas to the interior of the campus.

NEWARK — Prudential associates responded to the Second Annual Backpack Challenge and teamed up to purchase, fill and deliver 1,100 backpacks last week for the four children of Essex and nearby New Jersey counties.

When moving to a new home, foster children leave behind everything — their rooms, homes, toys, friends and siblings. The Second Annual Backpack Challenge, coordinated by the Newark Community Service

Committee, offers Prudential employees a tangible way to make a difference in the lives of children.

"Not only do these backpacks bring smiles to the faces of some of New Jersey's neediest children, they also symbolize stability and provide each child with something they can call their own," said Gabriella Morris, vice president of Community Resources and president of The Prudential Foundation.

Christmas honored for saving lives

continued from A-1

NEWARK — Last Sunday, the Metropolitan Baptist Church paid tribute to Dan Christmas, who was severely burned in a tragic fire at Seton Hall University dormitory on Jan. 19. Special presentations will be made to the 22-year-old senior who risked her own life to rescue students living in the Baland Hall dormitory where she served as a resident assistant.

Rev. Dr. David Jefferson, Sr., pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church, extended an invitation to members of the greater-Newark community to join in the recognition of this "she-ro" at the 10:45 a.m. service on Sunday, Sept. 17. "When someone in our community does something that's good, we need to hold him or her up," said Dr. Jefferson.

Ms. Christmas, a criminal justice major at Seton Hall, collapsed from exhaustion and smoke inhalation before being rescued, according to her, by a "guardian angel" in a white shirt, MBC Liturgical dancers will perform to "Angels Watching Over Me," by Richard Smallwood and the music department sang Bebe Winans' "In Him's the Way."

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CITYLIFE

After the struggles comes the celebration for Symphony Hall

A Newark arts institutions celebrates its 75 anniversary

By Kelly Foster

For the past 75 years, the Newark Symphony Hall has been a bastion of performing arts in Newark. From comedy, to dance, to pop music, to gospel — this original home of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and the New Jersey State Opera has entertained both white and black audiences for generations. This year, despite financial and leadership problems, Symphony Hall is commemorating its longevity by holding a series of performances, ongoing from now through December, to celebrate its 75th anniversary.

"We want this 75th anniversary celebration to bring awareness to the city," said Rosalyn Lightfoot, acting executive director of the Newark Performing Art Corporation, the group that manages Newark Symphony Hall. "We're trying to let people know what they have here, and to get them to come out... They'll find all areas of the performing arts right here."

The city of Newark was predominately white when the theater opened on Oct. 25, 1925. It was originally built as a temple for the Ancient Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, a fraternal order. The building boasts four floors, and a lower level.

During the depression years, according to Lightfoot, the Hall was used as a movie theater, and in 1938 the Griffith Music Foundation took over operations, headed by philanthropist Parker Griffith.

Lightfoot recalled that although black people were allowed admission to the shows, and there were no segregated seating, "there weren't a lot of blacks that came during that time. They (the theater) catered to the community."

After Griffith died, the theater lost a lot of its funding. In the 1960's the City of Newark purchased the building and established it as the present day Newark Symphony Hall.

"They flourished for a while," said Lightfoot. "They had the Rolling Stones, Peter, Paul and Mary, Marian Anderson — all the top performers played that hall, both blacks and whites."

The theatre closed when the Newark Symphony Hall Corporation, manager of the theater at the time, was not able to maintain the enterprise.

"The Newark Symphony Corporation did a lot of renovations and the funds ran out; it got to be too costly to maintain," Lightfoot said about the Newark Performing Arts Corporation's predecessor. "It was bad funding and a lack of programming."

Then in 1986, the Newark Performing Arts Corporation took over management of the Hall, but that was not the end of the financial problems for the struggling theater.

Miguel Rodriguez, chairman of the board of directors of the corporation, said the theater was receiving funds from the New Jersey Arts Council until 1997.

Then the board's fiscal officer resigned, and paperwork was not completed on time, Rodriguez said the corporation plans to submit a proposal for funding by the end of the year.

"We're going to appeal for more money from the Council," he said. "Also, we have a lot of people, such as senior citizens, volunteering their time... this 75th anniversary is acting as a fund-raiser, so we can improve conditions of the theater. We have pulled ourselves together, and the Board is more active now."

The Board also plans to solicit funding from private organizations.

The theater's main problems, according to Lightfoot, have been poor maintenance of the facility, and lack of leadership



Symphony Hall's majestic Sarah Vaughn Hall. Below, Newark Symphony Hall's Broad Street canopy and Terrace Ballroom entrance welcome show goers.



stability. "It went through heavy renovation and restoration," she said.

The heating system was updated, sound and lighting equipment was restored and fire doors were added.

Maintenance on the theater continues, with plumbing and electrical equipment being checked. Air conditioning will be added to the entire theatre.

Lightfoot said the theater continues to struggle financially, and has not had a consistent executive director for a while. "It's been up and down — there was no stability; no one stayed for any length of time," Lightfoot's position is temporary. Formerly an executive assistant to the business administrator, she came to her current position when the corporation asked the city for leadership.

"We're trying to make it the cultural center again in Newark," she said.

The community enjoys many uses of the theater other than for performances. Many local organizations and churches hold meetings, dances, and annual programs at the Hall — even wedding receptions are held there.

Both older and younger people are drawn to the theater, according to Lightfoot, which offers many family attractions, including one of its biggest draws — the gospel plays.

Comedians also draw large crowds. "We've also sold out the place with Patti LaBelle and Steve Harvey," Lightfoot said. "Last year we kicked off the season with Iyanla Vanzant. We saw a lot of mothers and daughters there."

On October 22, the theater is looking forward to Grammy Award winning singer Gladys Knight and jazz flutist Bobbi Humphrey, highlights of the 75th anniversary performances to come.

Upcoming events at Symphony Hall 1020 Broad Street, (973) 643-8009

September 29-30 "Dream Girls," 8 p.m.

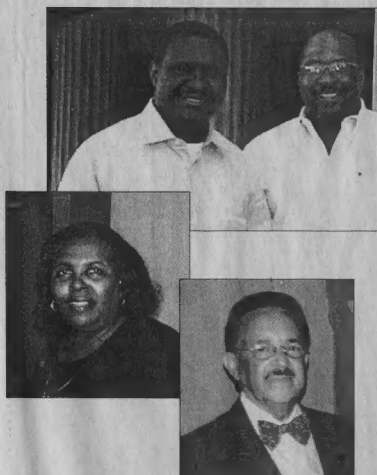
October

October 13-15 "Be Careful What You Pray For," 3 p.m.
October 15 Roy Ayers & Cynthia Holiday, 5 p.m.
October 20 "Sisters in the Spirit," featuring Yolanda Adams, Shirley Caesar & Mary Mary 8 p.m.
October 22 Gladys Knight, Bobbi Humphrey, 8 p.m.
October 28 Sankofa Dance Theatre's Celebration 1, 8 p.m.
October 29 Pieces of A Dream and Pat Tandy, 5 p.m.

November

November 9-12 T.D. Jakes' "Women, Thou Art Loosed" 8 p.m.
November 11 75th Anniversary Dance Gala, 9 p.m.
November 17-18 "The Daughters of Lee Roi Jones," 8 p.m.
November 18-19 "If Loving You is Wrong," 8 p.m., 3 p.m.
November 19 "The Daughters of Lee Roi Jones," 3 p.m.

Leading the charge to revitalize Newark Symphony Hall is its Board of Directors and other Hall staff. Pictured, clockwise, are Miguel E. Rodriguez, board of director president; Rosalyn L. Lightfoot, acting executive director; Kabu Okal-Davies, director of the African Globe Theatre; Oscar James, Symphony Hall general manager; and Nathaniel Potts, board member.



Horoscope

If THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Concern for a financial matter may dampen your enthusiasm for socializing. Take care not to shut others out. Keep the lines of communication open. Things will very good your way, especially where pleasure is found.

ARIES
(March 21-April 20)

It's one of those weeks when you should read the fine print on any contracts. Know what your getting into. Take care not to let things slide on the job. Business is highlighted this week, the unemployed will receive valuable leads. Others meet with rewards and gains. Finances will receive a favorable boost.

TAURUS
(April 21 - May 21)

Focus your attention on your career path this week. You will make a major business decision. There is someone who will hurt or upset your feelings, try not to make a big deal out of it. It's time to rethink spiritual matters. Do your best not to make mountains out of molehills.

GEMINI
(May 22 - June 21)

You may experience minor delays or frustrations early in the week, but the week will be ideal for romance and going out for fun. Most of the week will find you in a lively and optimistic frame of mind. Be sure to follow through on any commitments made. Pursue educational pursuits.

CANCER
(June 22 - July 23)

This is a week for creative work and for getting your ideas across to others. You'll be pleased with developments in a child's life. Partners will share your delight and support you. Make sure to state things clearly when instructions or intentions could easily be misunderstood.

LEO
(July 24 - August 23)

An outing this week may turn out to be more enjoyable than you had expected. Still you'll have a good time in the company of family and friends. There is an emphasis on romance, creativity and recreational pastimes. At work, there will be satisfaction in the completion of a project.

VIRGO
(August 24 - September 23)

A nice gift or thoughtful words from a loved one will start the week off well. You'll derive joy today from family matters. Don't dwell on a work problem after dark. Arguing or becoming moody will not rectify matters. You'll be especially shrewd where business matters are concerned.

LIBRA
(September 24 - October 23)

It's a great week for making major family decisions. But delays will be likely on the job. Your bright disposition will be very evident, and many will be taken by your grace and charm. Avoid fussing with a lover about a minor concern. Make sure that daydreaming doesn't keep you from accomplishing goals.

SCORPIO
(October 24 - November 23)

Your intuition will be a valuable asset in business dealings all week. It's a great time for buying and selling. Money matters take a turn for the better. Inspiration will help you make new plans in your personal life. Being sincere will help you get your point across.

SAGITTARIUS
(November 23 - December 21)

This week domestic concerns and family matters will be very important. Any work of an artistic nature is favored. You may be inspired to start that home remodeling or redecorating you have been thinking about for some time. Make sure to take time out in the evening for leisure.

CAPRICORN
(December 22 - January 20)

Avoid forcing your family to conform to your plans this week. Be patient if a child annoys you. It is a great time for romance and activities with children. Your business goals are in the foreseeable future. Be ready to capitalize on new opportunities, financial gains are likely.

AQUARIUS
(January 21 - February 19)

Behind the scenes developments favor you financially. Home will be the center of most activities this week. Two tasks are finally completed. Take the initiative in contacting a friend you haven't talked to lately. Evenings will be filled with romance and fun, but avoid any excesses.

PISCES
(February 20 - March 20)

Don't be overly critical of people in the workplace this week. You may receive a job opportunity that will let you work from home for the next couple of weeks. Focus your attention on family and property matters, you may decide on a change of residence. Avoid being hasty in signing any papers.

Essex County foster kids need your help

ESSEX COUNTY — There are thousands of children in foster care throughout Essex County. They are often moved from home to home with their few belongings in trash bags.

The Essex County Family Law Committee; Young Lawyers Section; and the Juvenile Concerns Committee, in conjunction with Stand For Children, request your support of the 3rd annual Backpacks for Foster Children campaign. The initiative is an important project for the children of Essex County.

New and gently used backpacks filled with toys, books, toiletries and other necessities for the foster children in Essex County are being collected by the ECBCA's Family Law Committee; the Juvenile Concerns Committee and Young Lawyers Section.

This can be a project for the entire family. Contributions can be dropped off at the designated bins at various locations in the Essex County Court Buildings including the Legal Aid Office, Room 118 Hall of Records; DYFS Office, Wilentz Justice Complex, 2nd Fl.; and Assignment Judge Falcone's Chambers, New Courts Building, Room 618.

If you prefer to make a cash donation, please make your checks payable to Stand For Children. The checks can be sent to ECBCA Headquarters, One Riverfront Plaza, 7th Fl., Newark, NJ 07102.

Attn: Kate Flannery, or sent directly to Stand for

Where to Donate

Backpacks can be dropped off at the following locations in Newark:

• The Legal Aid Office
Hall of Records, Room 118
465 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

• DYFS Office,
Wilentz Justice Complex, 2nd Fl.
212 Washington St.

• Assignment Judge Falcone's Chambers,
New Courts Building, Room 618
50 Nelson Place

Children at 326 Gill Lane, 1A, Iselin, NJ 08830.

We hope that you will join us in supporting this worthwhile cause. If you would like more information on Stand for Children or this project, please call Kate Flannery at ECBCA Headquarters (973) 622-6207 ext. 10.

The ECBCA-ECBF and the foster children of Essex County appreciate your anticipated support.

Lesson for the teacher

ROSELAND — The new school year has begun, but Nancy Kehayes, a computer applications teacher at Nutley High School, has been working all summer. Instead of teaching, however, she has been exposing to workplace experiences so that they can better prepare their students for the work environment.

Prudential recently participated in the New Jersey School-to-Careers program that gives teachers exposure to workplace experiences so that they can better prepare their students for the work environment.

"I spoke with individuals at varying levels to learn about their responsibilities and roles, and how they got to where they are. They also described the skills they believe students need to be successful in a corporate environment," Kehayes said.

'I don't want my baby to be tested because I'm afraid'

Dear Gwendolyn:

Six months ago I gave birth to a beautiful little girl. My husband and I have been elated since her birth and she has brought us closer together.

On my daughter's last visit to the doctor, the pediatrician discovered she was too quiet and showed too little signs of motion. He wants me to take her to a specialist. The doctor fears she cannot hear.

My husband says if she's deaf, he cannot stay. He would be too devastated to see his little girl each waking day knowing that she cannot hear. I have been putting off making the appointment with the specialist for fear of losing my husband. Is that being selfish?

Dear Betty:

It is. Many mothers and fathers have had to recall the times they said, "Why me? Why my child?" Unlike your daughter, these parents had to accept having a child with a terminal illness, such as a rare blood disease or an incurable form of cancer. They would have all changed places with you and your husband for a child in only problem was not of hearing.

Make the appointment with the specialist immediately. Many medical conditions, if detected in time, can be corrected. There is a

possibility your daughter could have had an ear infection that went unnoticed. It doesn't have to be she is totally deaf without any hope for reversal.

However, until she has been thoroughly tested, you won't know.

Betty, if she is diagnosed as deaf, find counseling and possibly a therapy group consisting of parents with the same or similar problem. You will also need to adjust your mind to the fact she will need special lessons as she grows older, and so will you. Right now you can't do much but to have her tested and then go from there. In the meantime, I suggest you read "Let's Talk About Deafness" by Melanie Apel Gordon (August 1999, Room Publishing Group, ISBN 0823951987).

Don't spend energy trying to keep your husband. Even if your daughter has only something minor, you will never forget the statistics he made and the course of direction he intended to take.

Regardless of the outcome, never stop loving your child. With schools and special classes for the deaf, the two of you will be able to communicate and she will be able to say as other children. "I love you mom." Think about it. If she's deaf, she can never hear the laughter from the joys of life, but she also can never hear the cries.

Got a problem? Write to Gwendolyn Baines at: gwenbaines@hotmail.com.

Snack Time

Peanut Butter and Jelly Cookie Bars

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 cup butter (1 stick), cold
1/2 cup sugar
3/4 teaspoon baking powder
1 egg, slightly beaten
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup seedless raspberry jam
1 (10-ounce) package peanut butter chips

Heat oven to 375 degrees F. Spray 9 x 13-inch baking pan with vegetable pan spray. Stir together flour, sugar, butter and baking powder. With food processor fitted with steel blade, process mixture until it resembles coarse crumbs. Add egg and vanilla; blend well. Reserve 1/2 cup of mixture; press remaining mixture onto bottom of prepared pan. Bake 10 minutes or until light golden brown. Spread jam over warm crust. Top with 1 cup of peanut butter chips. Stir together reserved crumb mixture and remaining chips; sprinkle over top.

Bake 15-20 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool completely on non-stick cooling grid. Using cutter of choice cut out into shapes. May also be cut into bars. Makes 8-10 stars or about 16 bars.

Animal-Shaped Sandwiches

Not Your Usual Tuna Sandwich:

1 (6 ounce) can water packed tuna, drained and flaked
1/3 cup mayonnaise

1 hard boiled egg, peeled and chopped
3 tablespoons pickle relish
2 tablespoons chopped celery, optional
2 tablespoons chopped red apple, optional
1/2 teaspoon seasoned salt
White, wheat or rye bread

In a small bowl combine all ingredients. Cut out bread with Wilton's Fish-shaped Metal Cutter. Spread approximately 2-3 tablespoons of tuna salad on bread. Makes approximately 4 sandwiches.

Cream Cheese Special:

1/4 cup soft cream cheese
1 tablespoon strawberry preserves
1/2 teaspoon shelled sunflower seeds
1/2 teaspoon dried cranberries or raisins

Cut out bread with Wilton's Elephant-shaped Metal Cutter. Whisk cream cheese with preserves. Spread on bread. Top with sunflower seeds and cranberries or raisins. Makes 2 sandwiches.

Other sandwich combination ideas:

• Cream cheese mixed with cinnamon, crushed, drained pineapple, variety of seeds and shredded carrots
• Peanut butter and jelly
• Plain American cheese
• Turkey:
1 slice turkey
1 slice Colby/Monterey Jack cheese
Mayonnaise or mustard

Diversions

Find the underlined words in the word search.

Black College Organizations

Black student alliance

Alpha Sweets

Alpha Kappa Alpha

Beta Eta Sigma

Black history

Black Leadership Council

Delta Sigma Theta

Black ensemble

Gospel choir

Black greek council

Kappa Alpha Psi

Lota Phi Beta

NAACP

Omega Psi Phi

Alpha Phi Alpha

Phi Beta Sigma

Sigma Gamma Rho

Black Student organization

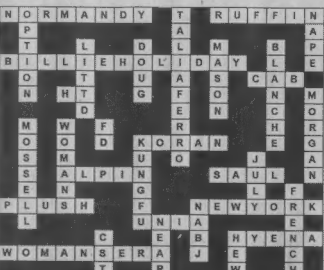
Umoja

Umoja

Black Student Union

Black Family Weekend

Zeta Phi Beta



Answer to last week's Crossword Puzzle.

O A S E L B M E S N E K M B A
A M G I S A T E A T E B L L L
L G I U G J W A T E C A P T P
G I A S L M C E R M C H N N H
O S E M P P A G E K A O O E A
S A K E G A L G H K A N I D S
P T L X R I H I A U E I N U W
E A L I S S P C M M N U T E
L B W J I T P A L N M I D S E
C I V W O A H J T A U A J F T
H H W R A M N I T L A O R A S
O P Y L N I U C D E E P C H Q
I H P I S P A G E M O D P M O
R H X L O T A P H I B E T A I
A T E B I H P A T E Z I Y F K

Heartbeat Calendar

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

SPRINGFIELD—The Sharing Network is holding a open house for volunteers. For more information, call (973) 375-4535.

JERSEY CITY—Lenny Wellness Center is sponsoring a support group for breast cancer survivors from 6-8 p.m. For more information, call (201) 931-2000 ext. 3178.

NEW BRUNSWICK—Saint Peter's Hospital is hosting a voter registration drive from 10-12 p.m. in the main lobby from 10-12 p.m. For more information, call (732) 745-6869.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

SECAUCUS—Meadowlands Hospital is offering a meditation class on Thursdays and Mondays. For more information, call (201) 592-3180.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

JERSEY CITY—100 Black Men of New Jersey is sponsoring a village gathering with health screenings and entertainment from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call (201) 915-2642.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

NEW BRUNSWICK—Saint Peter's University Hospital is offering a program for adults with emphysema, chronic bronchitis and asthma. For more information, call (732) 745-6600.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

TEANECK—Holy Name Hospital is offering an Organizational Therapy program. For more information, call (201) 833-3186.

TEANECK—Holy Name Hospital is sponsoring a seminar on menopause and breast health. From 7-8 p.m. For more information call (201) 833-7100.

Send your heartbeat calendar events to:
City News Heartbeat
111 Mulberry St., Suite 1-F
Newark, NJ 07102

100 Black Men gather for the 4th annual Village family health gathering

First event will take place Sept. 30

EAST ORANGE — 100 Black Men of New Jersey, Inc., will present a series of "Village Family Gatherings" during the month of September, which has been designated by Gov. Christine Whitman as Minority Health Month.

Hosted by Reverend Joseph Jones and the congregation of Monumental Baptist Church in Jersey City, the first event kicks off Sept. 30, at Dr. Errol Webb Lafayette Park and Monumental Baptist Church.

Each of the three Family Village Gatherings will be free to the public and include music, food, games, athletic competition and other family activities. There will also be a focus on health screenings and education for individuals that would otherwise receive little preventative care.

Minority health problems can be traced to a lack of health insurance, a shortage of healthcare facilities and providers, or a lack of information in these communities pertaining to what individuals can do themselves to help safeguard their health.

"Our organization is committed to empowering urban communities. Healthy families are key to communities being able to retain employment, advance in the job market and the success of children in school. The festive atmosphere of the health fair makes it easier for people to discuss sensitive issues such as if what parents feed their children is really healthy for them or the free prostate screening available at the Jersey City fair," said 100 Black Men of New Jersey, Executive Vice President Keith DuCosta.

September is Minority Health Month:

What will you do to get healthy?

Study will investigate lupus among black residents of Boston

By John McElhenry
Associated Press Writer

BOSTON (AP) — The state will spend \$600,000 to see if petroleum pollution in largely black city neighborhoods contributes to lupus, a potentially deadly immune disease, officials said recently.

The research will target three areas of the city with unusually high levels of petroleum contamination: Mattapan, Roxbury and North Dorchester.

Recent evidence has been uncovered linking petroleum to a higher risk of developing lupus, according to the state Department of Public Health.

Researchers hope to determine if the three communities, which all are predominantly black, have more cases of lupus than the average community.

Lupus affects women more than men, and black women more than white women. About 1 in 1,000 white women contract the disease, while 1 in 250 black women contract it, said Suzanne Condon, the state's assistant commissioner for environmental

health. Complicating the study is the presence in the three neighborhoods — all heavily urbanized areas — of an unusually high number of gas stations, where underground gas tanks may have leaked over the years.

Petroleum contamination has also been linked to manufacturers, furniture refinishing and other companies that use petroleum-based solvents.

Bobbie Drake-Saucer, of Roxbury, was 41 when she began suffering from eye irritation that doctors initially diagnosed as conjunctivitis.

When eye medicine didn't help, doctors began treating it with allergy medicine. It was only later, after she lost hair, weight, and developed profound fatigue, muscle stiffness and joint pains, that doctors diagnosed her with Lupus. Drake-Saucer lives near the

site of the old Modern Electroplating plant, a site so contaminated that the federal government gave the city \$6.8 million last year to clean it up.

About 1 in 1,000 white women contract the disease, while 1 in 250 black women contract it.

Suzanne Condon
State's assistant commissioner for environmental health.

After coming to terms with her disease, she was put in touch with other lupus sufferers, and they eventually founded a support group. The group has grown steadily, she said.

"Every time we turn around on a monthly basis there are women coming to us who have been newly diagnosed," said Drake-Saucer, now 55.

More than 180 contaminated sites have been found in Mattapan, Roxbury and North Dorchester,

said. Taxol therapy can cost \$5,000 to \$7,000, depending on the extent of treatment.

Taxol is one of the most widely used treatments for breast and ovarian cancer, expected to earn manufacturer Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. \$12 billion in U.S. sales this year.

Generic paclitaxel is safe and effective, and in the body is equivalent to Taxol, said Gary Buehler, FDA's general drug chief.

There is a slight difference in how the two products are made. Generic paclitaxel is made from the needles of yew trees, Flanzraich said. Bristol-Myers makes Taxol synthetically.

The FDA was ready to approve paclitaxel on Aug. 28, but a last-minute patent fight delayed the action. Three weeks ago, a federal appeals court in California lifted the last legal hurdle, a patent request that could have delayed generic competition by another 30 months.

Taxol was discovered by the taxpayer-funded National Cancer Institute, which licensed the drug to Bristol-Myers. First approved in 1992 as second-line therapy for advanced ovarian or breast cancer, Taxol today also is used against AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma and lung cancer.

Only the first breast and ovarian patients have expired, and thus the FDA formally approved generic paclitaxel just for those patients. But it is legal for physicians to use generic paclitaxel for other patients, too.

Shares of Ivax, which soared 25 percent after a federal judge reversed an order that would have extended Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.'s current lock on sales, closed up 6 percent, or \$2.50 per share, at \$43.75 on the American Stock Exchange. Bristol-Myers stock was up 12.5 cents at \$53.44 a share on the New York Stock Exchange.

Condon said. Most similarly sized communities would have a dozen or two dozen contaminated sites.

"It only makes sense to see if there's a relationship between these petroleum contamination sites and the large number of diagnoses in these African-American women," said Roseanne Pawelec, a spokeswoman for the Department of Public Health.

Lupus affects the body's autoimmune system. Instead of attacking viruses or bacteria, the Lupus victim's antibodies turn on their own tissues, attacking the kidneys, lungs, brain and other organs.

The disease can be life-threatening in some cases, said Dr. Tim E. McAlindon, a rheumatologist at the Boston Medical Center.

Cohen measure safeguards aid for hemophiliacs

TRENTON — Governor Christine Todd Whitman recently signed into law a bill sponsored by Assembly Deputy Minority Leader Neil M. Cohen that would require managed care plans to contract with home care providers who meet quality standards for treating hemophiliacs.

"Hemophilia is a sensitive disorder that requires special treatment," said Cohen (D-Union). "Inattentive or insufficient care could have tragic consequences when a patient suffers from hemophilia."

Cohen sponsored the measure with Assemblyman Christopher "Kip" Bateman (R-Somerset) in an effort to provide consistent and uninterrupted care for hemophiliacs.

Under the new law, providers would have to comply with standards adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services.

"Some home care providers are not knowledgeable of the treatment needed by hemophiliacs and therefore do not provide the necessary services that are crucial to the patient," said Cohen.

"Hemophilia is a serious medical condition that requires nothing less than the most competent of care."

The standards outlined in the new law specify that a provider must:

• Provide services pursuant to a prescription from the individual's

doctor and not make substitutions of blood without approval from the doctor;

• Provide all brands of clotting products and ancillary supplies to execute treatment regimens as prescribed by their doctor;

• Have the ability to deliver blood products, medications and nursing services within three hours and maintain a 24-hour on-call service;

• Demonstrate knowledge of bleeding disorders;

• Demonstrate the ability to properly maintain records, including third-party reimbursements;

• Provide for the removal of hazardous waste; and

• Provide covered persons with a written copy of the agency's policy regarding discontinuation of services and the expected costs of medications and services provided by the agency that are not covered by the health plan.

The law directs the Department of Health and Senior Services to compile a list of eligible providers who comply with the above requirements and make that list available to the public.

Finally, the law requires insurers to reimburse laboratories to an outpatient service at state-designated hemophilia centers regardless of whether the lab is contracting with a participating provider under certain conditions.

FDA okays generic cancer drug

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration recently approved the first generic version of the popular cancer therapy Taxol, a move that promises many breast and ovarian cancer patients cheaper therapy.

Ivax Corp. of Miami said its generic paclitaxel will be available later this fall. While Ivax would not reveal the price, company president Neil Flanzraich noted generic drugs typically debut 30 percent cheaper than their brand-name competitors.

"This is going to be sold at a significantly reduced price," he

Health Highlights

Newark Health Dept. offers 'Back to School' immunizations

NEWARK — On Aug. 2, the City of Newark's Department of Health and Human Services introduced the Back to School Fast Track Program that extends immunization clinic hours to include evenings. The program continues through Oct. 5. Hours are Monday and Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 7 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. The program takes place at the Department of Health and Human Services, 110 Williams St.

Also, Newark's Bureau of Vital Statistics will open its doors during the same hours to accommodate the back to school needs of parents and students.

Parents must first come to Newark's health department with their children's immunization records for an immunization assessment. Parents can also obtain birth certificates from the Vital Statistics office.

"We have increased the accessibility of health care services for our residents to ensure that our children are properly immunized and healthy. We hope that all Newark residents will take advantage of the services offered by our health department," said Mayor Sharpe James.

The department has adjusted and extended the hours of service to help working parents and guardians to gather all documents required for the school registration process. "Parents registering their children for school for the first time are required to have a copy of that child's birth certificate and proof of immunization," he added.

"I encourage parents or guardians of new school registrants to come out and participate in our Back to School Fast Track Program. It is our goal to ensure that Newark's children are prepared to start the new school year and are immunized properly, healthy and ready for school," said Newark Department of Health and Human Services Director, Catherine Cuomo-Cecere.

For more information, please contact Immunization Coordinator Dorothy Williams, Newark Department of Health and Human Services Immunization at (973) 733-7580 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Chelsea Clinton helps launch anti-smoking campaign

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Chelsea Clinton recently joined the Australian women's soccer team to help launch an anti-smoking campaign aimed at girls and young women.

Clinton is representing her family at the Sydney Olympics. The campaign centerpiece is a poster with the message, "Be strong, be free, smoke free" and photographs of four Australian women soccer stars.

U.S. Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala said the campaign was based on a partnership forged four years ago between her department and the U.S. women's soccer team.

"We have been focusing on very young people and we have had some success in this campaign," Shalala said.



Reach the \$47 Million NJ African-American Health Consumer Market

in the City News HEARTBEAT section
Your guide to healthy living

Who should advertise in the City News HEARTBEAT section?

Health Equipment
Hospitals
Health Care Providers
Pharmacies
Physicians
Counseling Services
HMO's
Health Insurance Providers
Health Care Workers' Training Programs



Source: Target Market News, Inc. 1996

Call 973-642-4400 or Fax to: 973-642-5444

Send your local health event information to City News Heartbeat, 111 Mulberry St., Suite 1-F, Newark, NJ 07102 at least three weeks prior to event.

KC's Jazz district hits a sour note as development stalls

By Melanie Coffee
Associated Press Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — It's a hot, quiet Saturday night. Footsteps from a sprinkling of people shuffle softly down the sidewalks along Vine Street, Kansas City's hallowed ground of jazz.

Each visitor's step searches for the sounds drifting from The Blue Room jazz club on the corner of 18th and Vine, the intersection that helped shape bebop's zigzagging style as perhaps the city's cornerstone contribution to American popular culture.

Many songs were written about this part of Kansas City. But those tunes were about the days when 18th and Vine was anything but quiet on Saturday nights. Things are different now.

In its beginnings, the district was a center for black culture and commerce in the 1920s when public segregation ruled. For decades, doctors, lawyers and celebrities would descend on the district's many restaurants, pack its cozy speakeasies and listen to the likes of Count Basie, Jay McShann, and Charlie "Bird" Parker.

But, eventually, 18th and Vine ran its course. The crowds left, the buildings deteriorated. By the 1950s, urban blight was in the area and crime took hold. Walling trumpets were replaced by squealing sirens.

Jazz and history enthusiasts have been attempting to bring back the district, restoring the area's luster and returning to

president of Jazz District Redevelopment Corp., which now oversees the revitalization. "There seemed to have been some foot-dragging and too much oversight by the bureaucrats involved."

Several groups have been involved in the restoration. The Black Economic Union started the effort, and then JDRC took charge in 1997. Several local churches also pitched in.

But all the help only exacerbated the problem.

"The project kept changing hands," Chaney said.

"Sometimes it's confusing to know which group to call for help if a problem comes up."

That lack of a unifying force and focus, Young said, has stalled the district's entire growth.

Few episodes in Vine Street's revival better typify the district's problems than the one involving Sylvia's restaurant, the district's attempt at bringing full service dining to a tourist destination that had none. Until only recently, buying even a cup of coffee was impossible.

In the mid-1990s, the Black Economic Union asked New York-based Sylvia's — a soul food eatery — to move to the district. The proposal enraged local restaurateurs, who complained that if the city wanted to offer a taste of Kansas City to accompany its homegrown jazz, then why court an out-of-town restaurateur?

Still, city officials moved ahead and advertised Sylvia's arrival. But the deal fell through, and Sylvia's opted out.

So far, the American Jazz Museum and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, which are housed in the same neon-lit building as The Blue Room, are the district's biggest attractions. Total attendance this year for the museums, the Gem Theater and jazz club — all of which Kansas City owns — dropped to 250,000 from 350,000, said Rowena Stewart, head of the jazz museum and 18th and Vine Authority.

Sandi Brill of Overland Park, Kan., recently visited the district but came away disappointed.

"I had heard this was the Jazz District, but there's not much here except for some nice buildings and one jazz club," she said on a recent night at The Blue Room. "You'd think there'd be more clubs here."

Day visitors will confront the construction work going on in the district. Bulldozers gut out lost behind facades while jack hammers pound away at other points. Critics are happy work is

underway but complain it's long overdue.

"I just think it's a shame that after 11 or 12 years we don't see anything but what's down here now," said Young.

Be patient, Fleming says.

"People won't be so impatient when come February and you see buildings that will be up," Fleming said.

"By then we'll have leases signed and by March we'll turn the keys over to the tenants."

The restoration project is estimated to cost \$35 million, \$14.2 million of which will be federal funds the city will acquire through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The first phase — completing shells of four buildings available for businesses and apartments — is expected to be finished by February 2001. The entire project is slated for completion in 2004, Fleming said.

District advocates are promising local flavor. The JDRC has received letters of intent from local, minority-owned businesses for most of the commercial space that include restaurants, a day spa and boutiques, Fleming said.

Some say the district had better not wait too long to get going. Jazz popularity is reaching new lows in America, with the exception for less than two percent of the market and sales dropping steadily, according to the National Association of Recording Merchandisers.

"I think our community takes this area to heart, because so much of our history comes from this area," Chaney said. "I think this could be a cultural mecca if it's done right."



Inside the American Jazz Museum in Kansas City, MO

Kansas City the buzz that once landed it on the musical map.

Yet with more than two decades of planning and about \$38.8 million in public money, only a few blocks of the seven-square-block district have been rehabbed. Deteriorating facades and run-down buildings comprise much of the area, and attendance at its centerpiece attractions — two museums, a theater and a night club — is falling. What's more, locals and conventioners complain about the lack of even one full-service restaurant.

The shortcomings are hitting a sour note with critics and an impatient public.

"I think it's all just going too slow. We need to get the project done," said Ronald Chaney, who moved his EthnicArts gallery and frame shop to the district to support the district's rebirth.

"You don't see any traffic in this area," he says. "I want to see more people walking through here, but we're still here because we believe in the project and we want to see this thing work."

Between the 1920s and 1950s, Vine Street bubbled with activity. Clubs and casinos were packed. Even when they closed, patrons hooped it six blocks down for wee-hours jam sessions.

"When you sit down and talk to people about the district, they'll talk about the movies they went to see for a nickel at the Gem, the parties they used to have in the street, the parades and the black business clubs they had down here," said A. Marie Young, executive director of the Black Chamber of Commerce. "This was THE place in town."

It didn't last.

Reformers eager to shed Kansas City's gangster image — in the shadow of legendary political boss Tom Pendergast — moved to shut down the section's thriving shops. And positive forces like desegregation and urban renewal eventually pushed blacks further away from the district.

Kansas City's vibrant staging ground for bebop jazz was muted.

Then in the late 1970s, Horace Peterson III, former director of the Black Archives of Mid-America, proposed to bring it all back. A few years later, the Black Economic Union, a community improvement group, started acquiring land and rebuilding the district.

The area became part of the "Cleaver Plan" in 1989, a proposal by then-councilman Emanuel Cleaver to use taxpayers' money to revitalize the district, among other city improvements.

Cleaver eventually became mayor and two other projects under his wing got off to quick starts. But the jazz district lagged — the victim of confusion over the district's direction and leadership.

Civic leaders couldn't agree on how to design the district. Groups charged with overseeing developments complained and often didn't communicate with each other.

It didn't take long for competing restoration proposals to delay construction, and plans had to be rewritten and approved again by city zones.

The district was choking on its own bureaucracy.

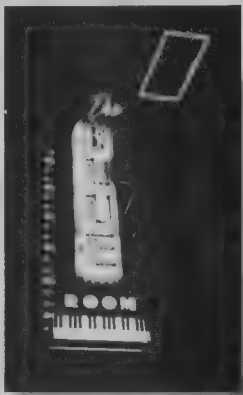
"I wasn't here at the time, but it seems that we didn't have the kind of support that we thought we had," said Al Fleming,

street smart

The Urban Scholarship Program is their ticket to college.

The streets of urban America are often a dead end for students who want an education. And to make matters worse, too few scholarships reach out to help them.

That's why **Whitehouse-Scholarship** is partnering with the **Black Men, Urban Leaders** (B.M.U.L.) to create the **Urban Scholarship Program**. The money goes here, stays here...for them.



Watch out: The advance-fee loan shark may be lurking

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Unwary consumers, beware of the advance-fee loan sharks. A different breed of "loan shark" is preying on unwary consumers by taking their money for the promise of a loan, credit card or other extension of credit.

Advertisements and promotions for advance-fee loans "guarantee" or suggest that there's a high likelihood of success that the loan will be awarded, regardless of the applicant's credit history. But, to take advantage of the offer, the consumer first has to pay a fee. That's the catch. The consumer pays the fee, the scam artist takes off with the money, and the loan never materializes.

Legitimate guaranteed offers of credit do not require payments up front. Legitimate lenders may require consumers to pay application, appraisal or credit report fees, but these fees seldom are required before the lender is identified and the application completed. In addition, the fees are generally paid to the lender, not to the broker or arranger of the "guaranteed" loan.

Legitimate lenders may guarantee firm offers of credit to credit-worthy consumers, but they rarely do this before evaluating a consumer's credit-worthiness.

Advertisements for advance-fee loans generally appear in the

classified section of daily and weekly newspapers and magazines. Often, the ads feature "900" numbers, which result in charges on your phone bill.

Advance-fee loans are also promoted through direct mail and radio and cable TV spots. The appearance of loans in your local newspaper or radio station is no guarantee of the legitimacy of the company behind the ad.

The Federal Trade Commission says you can avoid being bitten by advance-fee loan sharks with the following advice: "Don't pay for a promise. It's illegal for companies doing business by phone to promise you a loan and ask you to pay for it before they deliver.

"Ignore any ad — or hang up on any caller — that guarantees a loan in exchange for an advance fee. Legitimate lenders never 'guarantee' or say that you will receive a loan before you apply, especially if you have bad credit or no credit record.

"Never give your credit card or bank account numbers, or Social Security Number, over the telephone unless you are familiar with the company and know why the information is necessary.

If you have fallen prey to an advance-fee loan scam, file a complaint with the FTC. Call toll-free (877) FTC-HELP (382-4357), or visit www.ftc.gov and click on complaint form.

Tips for responsible phone use while driving

Are you in control of your car? Research indicates that in more than 50 percent of all crashes, driver inattention was a contributing factor. When it comes to using a wireless phone while driving, remember that safety is your most important call. Arrive safely. Consider your options for wireless phone use while on the road.

- Evaluate the demands of weather and traffic conditions before making or taking a call.
- Tell the caller that you are driving and may need to suspend the conversation.
- Allow voice mail to handle your calls and return them at your convenience.
- Ask a passenger to make or take the call.
- Position your phone within easy reach.
- Suspend conversation during hazardous driving conditions.
- Use a hands-free device if available.
- Use memory dial and automatic redial features.
- Dial phone numbers when you are not moving.
- Suspend conversation during hazardous driving conditions.
- Do not engage in stressful or emotional conversations while driving.
- Never take notes or look up numbers while driving.
- Do not use data functions such as text messaging or web browsing while driving.



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Deadline is October 20, 2000

—Personal finance—

Investors: Determine your portfolio return

By Dr. Karen Enslie

According to the Securities Industry Association (SIA), a trade group for brokerage firms, nearly half (48.2 percent) of all U.S. households own individual stocks or growth mutual funds. This percentage is up sharply from just 28 percent of households with equity assets at the beginning of the 1990s. Thus, thousands of "newbie" investors have put money they might have previously invested in bonds or certificates of deposit (CDs) into often volatile and unpredictable stocks or stock funds.

This trend in investing behavior is not surprising since 1999 was another record-breaking year for major stock indices. Today, households have three-fourths of their liquid financial assets invested in securities products. Whether it's in a company 401(k) plan or a taxable mutual fund "on the side," more and more people are starting to invest, either because they want to or because they are forced to make retirement plan decisions on their own.

Do investors know what they're doing and how their investments are faring?

Maybe not. According to an article, "Did You Beat the Market," in the January 2000 issue of *Money* magazine, many investors (as many as 80 percent of those studied) don't know how their investments have performed relative to "benchmark" indicators such as the Standard and Poor's 500 stock index.

The remainder of the article describes a "ballpark" formula to calculate the performance of your individual investment portfolio. Using the result, you can then determine whether or not you actually "beat the market." All you need to know is your portfolio balance at the beginning and end of a particular year (e.g., 1999) and the amount invested throughout that year.

In the illustration below, let's assume

that an investor started the year out on January 1 with a \$15,000 balance in three investment accounts (e.g., a stock index mutual fund, a 401(k) invested primarily in equities, and a bank CD).

By December 31 of that same year, the balance had grown to \$20,000. In addition, the investor added \$100 a month to both the 401(k) and the mutual fund (\$200 total) for a total investment deposit of \$2,400 (12 months x \$200).

To calculate your portfolio return take the beginning balance (\$15,000), add to it half of the total annual deposits (\$1200) to total \$16,200. Take the ending balance (\$20,000) and subtract half of the total annual deposits, to get \$18,800.

Finally, divide the adjusted ending balance (\$18,800) by the adjusted beginning balance (\$16,200), which equals 1.16. Subtract 1 and multiply by 100 to get 16, which is the investor's return on the entire portfolio.



—Planning for your financial future—

Early retirement: Think twice

By Philip Matarese
Social Security Manager in Newark

If you are married, have been the primary wage earner in your family and are thinking about filing for early retirement, there are some things you should consider.

Most people know they can collect reduced Social Security retirement benefits as early as age 62. However, most people don't know that collecting Social Security before their full retirement age can reduce the benefit amounts paid to their survivors.

Consider the following couple — Tom was born in 1938 and has just turned 62. His wife, Shirley, has worked, but Tom has been the primary wage earner in the family. Tom is thinking about when he should start collecting Social Security.

Social Security will compute a "basic benefit" for Tom. His basic benefit depends on how much he has earned over his lifetime. If Tom waits until his full retirement age to collect Social Security, he will receive 100 percent of his basic benefit every month for the rest of his life. For someone born in 1938, such as Tom, the full retirement age is 65 years and 2 months.

If Tom collects Social Security before this age, his monthly benefit will be reduced. For example, if he collects Social Security starting at age 62, his monthly benefit amount will be about 79 percent of his basic benefit.

Tom's choice of when to start receiving Social Security affects how much he gets each month, but also affects how much Shirley will get from Social Security if Tom dies before she does.

When Tom dies, Social Security will pay Shirley a widow's benefit.

If Tom waits until his full retirement age to collect Social Security, Shirley's benefit will be 100 percent of Tom's basic benefit. If, however, Tom received early retirement benefits, her widow's benefit will be lower. In general, the longer Tom waits to collect Social Security, the higher Shirley's widow's benefit will be.

According to Social Security, there are currently three million widows and widowers who have less income because they were married to people who filed for early retirement benefits.

A representative at your local Social Security office can talk with you and your spouse about your specific situation. When you are fully informed, you can make the decision that is right for both you and your family.

Environmental law is for the average citizen

By Frederick M. Baron

Many people believe that they have little say in large-scale societal issues such as the health of our environment. The job of protecting our natural resources is done solely by the government, most think.

But government regulators aren't the only ones charged with protecting our air, our lands, and our wildlife. Our civil justice system protects the environment too.

You may have heard recently of stories involving lawsuits to preserve the environment, like the one brought by the clients of Jan Schlitzman against W.R. Grace Co. and Beatrice Foods that was depicted in the book and movie "A Civil Action."

In that case, citizens of the town of Woburn, Massachusetts filed suit when they began to suspect that their drinking water was being contaminated by runoff from a nearby facility.

While the victims initially were denied full justice from W.R. Grace and Beatrice Foods, in 1986 Schlitzman was able to secure an \$8 million settlement from Grace, which was shared by the eight families who said the plant injured them.

Subsequently, working with the EPA, Schlitzman and his clients helped persuade Grace, Beatrice, a workers' union company and a trucking company to spend \$70 million over

the next 50 years to clean up and restore the site in Woburn.

But there are thousands of other risk-taking advocates just like Schlitzman and his clients all across America who are pushing polluters and regulators to keep the environment clean. In fact, much of the progress made in protecting the environment

This decision protects citizens' legal rights to enforce the Clean Water Act and other pollution-control laws.

Dr. Brent Blackwelder
President of Friends of the Earth

ment since the first Earth Day has been made by those who have actively pursued environmental protection in the courts.

Why do concerned citizens have such influence over environmental enforcement? One reason is that the government has set it up that way.

A combination of court decisions and language in federal environmental legislation has allowed citizen activists to help enforce regulations by taking scuff law polluters to court when necessary.

That right has been under fire from some corporations. But the right was shored up early this year when the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its ruling in the case of *Friends of the Earth v. Laidlaw*

Environmental Services.

In that case, the Laidlaw company had been found in violation of its federal wastewater discharge permits more than 1,800 times.

The hazardous waste incinerator it operated in South Carolina from 1987 to 1995 had released mercury and other substances known to poison humans and wildlife — inflicting damage to the quality the North Tiger River near Spartanburg.

The 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, VA, had earlier ruled that since the company had stopped polluting the river — following a lawsuit filed by citizen watchdogs — it would not have to pay a \$405,800 fine nor Friends of the Earth's legal costs.

But in a 7-2 majority decision written by Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the Court overturned the 4th Circuit's decision, and granted legal standing to Friends of the Earth in representing average citizens, thereby eliminating key stumbling blocks used against citizens in environmental enforcement lawsuits.

"This decision protects citizens' legal right to enforce the Clean Water Act and other pollution-control laws," said Dr. Brent Blackwelder, president of Friends of the Earth, in a press release about the case. "It confirms the civil justice system's role in keeping our families safe."

Consumer prices fall to lowest in 14 years in August

By Jeanne Aversa
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Consumer prices fell in August for the first time in 14 years, as the biggest drop in gasoline prices since 1991 overwhelmed higher costs for clothes and prescription drugs.

The good inflation news, in a recent report, bolstered economists' belief that the Federal Reserve won't need to boost interest rates any more this year to ward off inflation and prevent the economy from overheating.

The Labor Department Consumer Price Index, the most closely watched inflation gauge, declined by a seasonally adjusted 0.1 percent last month, a better showing than the modest increase many analysts were expecting.

"The bottom line is: this is a very positive report for consumers. Inflation is tame, and households should continue to enjoy weak or falling prices for many products from PCs to vehicles," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Economy.com, an economic consulting firm.

August's performance marked the first monthly CPI decline since a 0.4 percent drop in April 1986, the government said. That was caused by a collapse in global oil prices to \$13 a barrel in April 1986 from around \$31 a barrel just five months earlier, economists said.

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LEGALS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Housing Authority of the City of Newark for a new single unit, rental and replacement in its entirety and accessories at NJ25-5, Clifford P. Case Apartments.

Bids for the above will be received by the Housing Authority in its office located at 165 East Grand Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07102 at 10:00 AM on Thursday, October 5, 2000 and will immediately be opened and read aloud thereafter. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for 10:00 AM on Thursday, September 28, 2000 at the Clifford P. Case Apartments located at 337 West Union Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07102.

The instructions to bidders, Bid Form, General Conditions, Supplementary Conditions, Division 1 Drawings, Specifications, and other Contract Documents will be on file during the business day starting September 21st, 2000 at the Architect's office and can be obtained by calling (732) 497-7115. Copies thereof must be obtained by the bidder at a refundable deposit of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each complete set. Deposit checks shall be made payable to Weston Associates, PC.

All required bids, certifications and other forms required to be submitted by bidders are to be prepared on the proposal forms found in the bid package. The bid bond (surety) is to be ten percent (10%) of the total bid.

All bonds used to satisfy the bid surety requirements must be issued by surety firms licensed to issue such bonds in the State of New Jersey and be listed in the US Treasury Circular No. 570 ("Listed Surety") and regardless of the method the bidder proposes to meet the bid surety requirement, the bidder shall comply with the bid Contract of Surety written by a Listed Surety.

The successful bidder will also be required to produce 100% payment and performance bond written by a Listed Surety, prior to the Authority's issuance of a notice to proceed.

The Housing Authority of the City of Newark reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any informalities therein received and to accept any bid which is deemed to be in the best interest of the Authority.

Bids will remain in force for a period of sixty (60) days after the date of the opening thereof.

Kenneth Puzko
Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) MOISTURE MIGRATION IN BUILDINGS AND REPAIRS TO AFFECTED AREAS


The New Brunswick Housing and Redevelopment Authority (NBHA), is soliciting proposals from New Jersey Licensed Architects and/or Professional Engineers to prepare plans and specifications for the assessment of moisture migration within a new three high rise building (Pinefield Pavilion), and repairs to all affected areas. The successful bidder shall be currently licensed by the State of New Jersey and will have the appropriate academic qualifications and field experience in Moisture Migration Remediation, Interior Building Repairs, and be thoroughly familiar with the Federal Energy (FED) program.

Further information about the NBHA, the scope of services, proposal evaluation criteria, and the proposed contract can be obtained from the NBHA at its office at 27 Van Dyke Avenue, New Brunswick, New Jersey 07102, or by faxing a request for information about the RFP to (732) 742-8155. Requests should be made for a copy of the Instructions to Proposers-REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL, MOISTURE MIGRATION IN BUILDINGS AND REPAIRS TO AFFECTED AREAS. Proposals submitted without due regard to the Instructions to Proposers will not be considered. It is the intent of the NBHA for the successful proposer to have completed all field work and produce Plans and Specifications for Advertisement for Bid within thirty (30) calendar days after the award of the contract.

Proposals are due at the above address containing an amount of three (3) copies no later than 11:00 a.m., Monday, October 2, 2000. Envelopes containing the proposals should be clearly marked: RFP-NBHS-TURBOMOTION IN BUILDINGS AND REPAIRS TO AFFECTED AREAS.

Kevin Gurne
Executive Director

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Monday, October 9, 2000	'Interviewing Skills'	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Monday, October 16, 2000	'Resume Writing'	9:00 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Monday, October 23, 2000	'Dress for Success'	9:00 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

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Name of person who referred you _____
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To register for the workshops, please contact Quinnetta Anderson at (973) 642-8300 ext. 290 or fax registration to (973) 642-6726 or send form to 303 Washington St., 5th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102. Deadline for registration is October 2, 2000.

In Collaboration with: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development New Jersey State Office • Workforce New Jersey • New Jersey Department of Community Affairs • Newark Workforce Investment Board • United Way of Essex and West Hudson / Newark Enterprise Resource Development Center • New Community Corporation • Millennium Information Technology Group, Inc. • Council for Airport Opportunity

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